

MARVEL COMICS

NO. 90

MYSTERY

FEBRUARY



10¢
K

TORCH!
TORCH!
SAVE
ME!

MY LEGS!
THIS SNOW
IS KILLING
THEIR
FLAME!
I'M
TRAPPED!

IN THIS
ISSUE:

**"THE GIANT
OF THE
MOUNTAINS!"**

Introducing the Amazing New Mighty Midget

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Style

CAMERA

ACTUAL
SIZE



**Takes Wonderful
Pictures 1 1/4" x 1 1/2" That
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THE HUMAN TORCH

WOULD YOU BELIEVE IT? A GIANT IS LOOSE IN THE SNOW-COVERED MOUNTAIN RANGES OF THE SWISS ALPS! WHERE DOES HE COME FROM? WHAT MAKES SUCH A MONSTER POSSIBLE? THE TRUTH BEHIND THIS STORY IS ENOUGH TO MAKE **THE HUMAN TORCH** AND **SUN GIRL** USE THEIR FULLEST POWERS TO TRY TO BATTLE **"THE GIANT OF THE ALPS!"**



4237

ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF A SMALL ALPINE VILLAGE IN THE SWISS ALPS, AN ARCHED FIGURE HURTTLES DOWN THE STEEP INCLINE OF A SKI JUMP AT AN INCREDIBLE PACE...

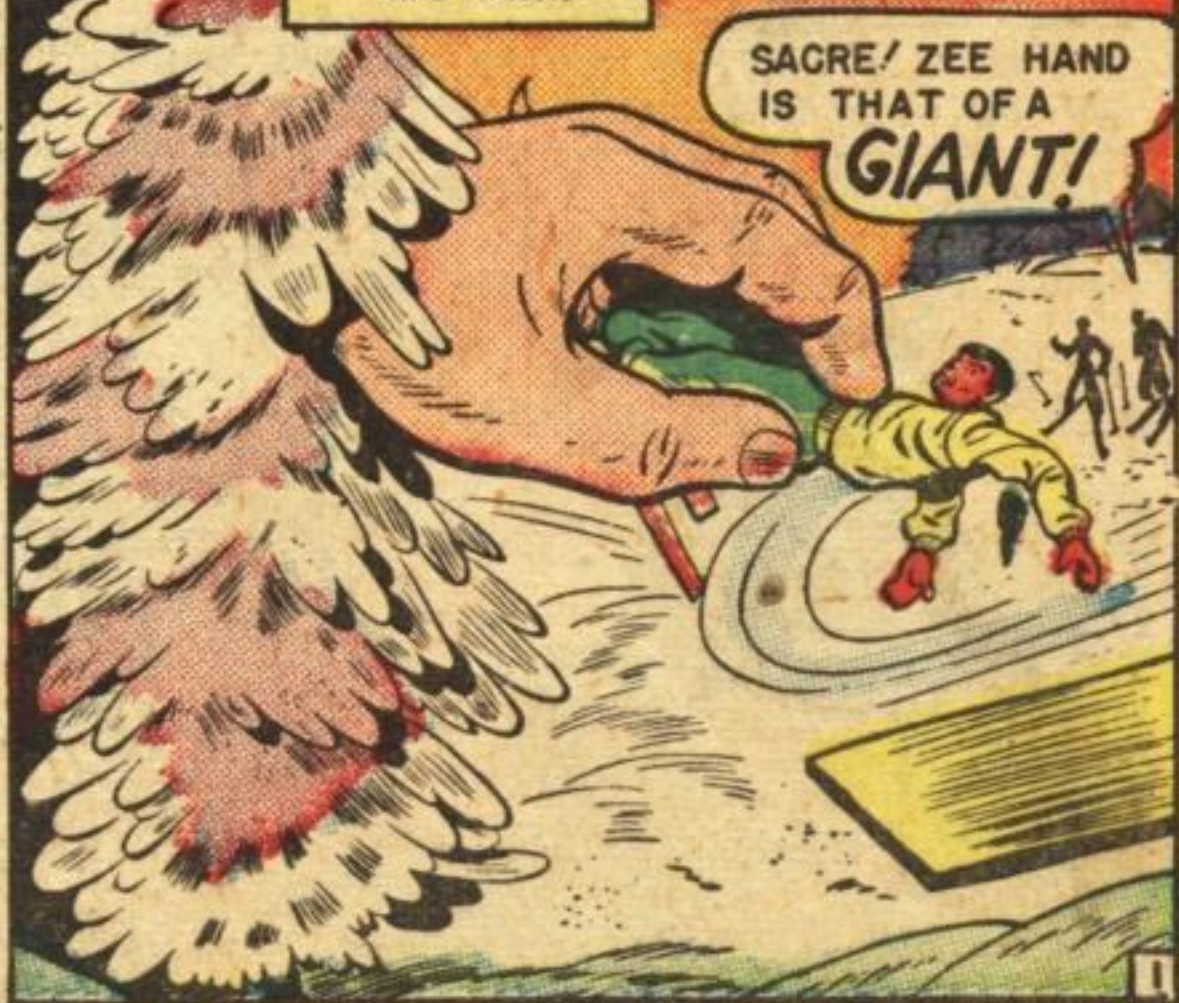
THERE GOES ERNEST! HIS FORM HAS BEEN IMPROVING GREATLY EACH DAY!

OUI! HE WILL MAKE AN EXCEPTIONAL JUMPER IN TIME!



...TO THE AMAZED ASTONISHMENT OF ALL PRESENT, A GIGANTIC HAND PLUCKS THE JUMPER OUT OF MID-AIR...

SACRE! ZEE HAND IS THAT OF A **GIANT!**



SUDDENLY, THE MONSTROUS FIGURE REARS, TOWERING ABOVE THE TERRIFIED TYROLEANS... A LEERING MASTER STANDING IN ITS HAIR...

NO, BORKOR... DROP HIM! THAT'S IT! WE HAVE MORE IMPORTANT BUSINESS TO ATTEND TO!

IT-IT'S LIKE SOMETHING OUT OF H.G. WELLS! RUN OR IT WILL CRUSH US ALL!

GOOD HEAVENS! IT CAN'T BE!

FASTER, BORKOR! BRUSH THOSE FOOLS OUT OF YOUR WAY!

AIEEEE! IT'S UPON ME! HELP!

WHAT SORT OF CREATURE IS THIS?

MEANWHILE... AT THE 'ELF'S HOTEL' TWO MILES AWAY, THE HOTEL MANAGER GREETES A PAIR OF DISTINGUISHED GUESTS...

M'SIEUR TORCH... EET IS A PRIVILEGE TO HAVE YOU AND SUN GIRL HONOR THE ELF'S HOTEL WITH YOUR ATTENDANCE!

THANKS! WE'VE BEEN ACHING TO DO SOME SKIING SINCE THE FIRST SNOWS CAME!

JUST THEN, A FEAR-SMITTEN FIGURE RUNS PAST THE INTERNATIONALLY FAMOUS PAIR...

THE GIANT... IT'S COMING THIS WAY!

HEAR THAT, TORCH? SOUNDS A BIT RIDICULOUS!

AND RIDICULOUS IT IS, SUN GIRL! POOR MR. FURBER... THE COGNAC DOES MUCH FOR HIS IMAGINATION!

HA-HA! YES... I UNDERSTAND!

BUT... AS IF IN CONFIRMATION OF THE DIRE WARNING, THE HOTEL STARTS SHAKING VIOLENTLY...

OOOH! IT CANNOT BE ZE EARTHQUAKE!

WHOOPIING WOWS, TORCH! I CAN'T STAND ON MY FEET!

AND THEN... CATACLYSMIC DISASTER!

GREAT GULLIVER! LOOK AT THE SIZE OF THAT HAND!

LOOKS LIKE THAT WARNING WAS GIVEN IN GOOD FAITH! IT IS A GIANT!

THROUGH THE WALLS CRASHES A HUGE FIST!

PARDON ME, WHILE I FLAME OUT OF HERE AND SEE WHO GARGANTUA IS! I'VE GOT TO PUT A STOP TO HIM... IF I CAN!

HE'S GROPPING FOR THAT FLOOR SAFE, TORCH!

OH! LOOKS LIKE **BIG BOY** HAS A **LITTLE BOY** IN HIS HAIR!

THAT'S IT, BORKOR... HOLD ONTO THAT SAFE!

OKAY, GUIDING STAR... TELL YOUR BIG STOOGE TO DROP THE SAFE OR I'LL GIVE YOU AND HIM A SINGE YOU'LL NEVER FORGET!

(GULP!) **THE HUMAN TORCH!** BORKOR... GRAB HIM!

A GIGANTIC QUINTET OF FINGERS SUDDENLY ENCIRCLES TORCH, AS DISASTER STRIKES SWIFTLY...

YIPES! A HUMAN NET! GOT TO GET OUT OF HERE!

...AND THE HAND SNAPS SHUT!

TOO LATE! AND HE'S THROTTLED OFF MY AIR SUPPLY! **I CAN'T FLAME!**

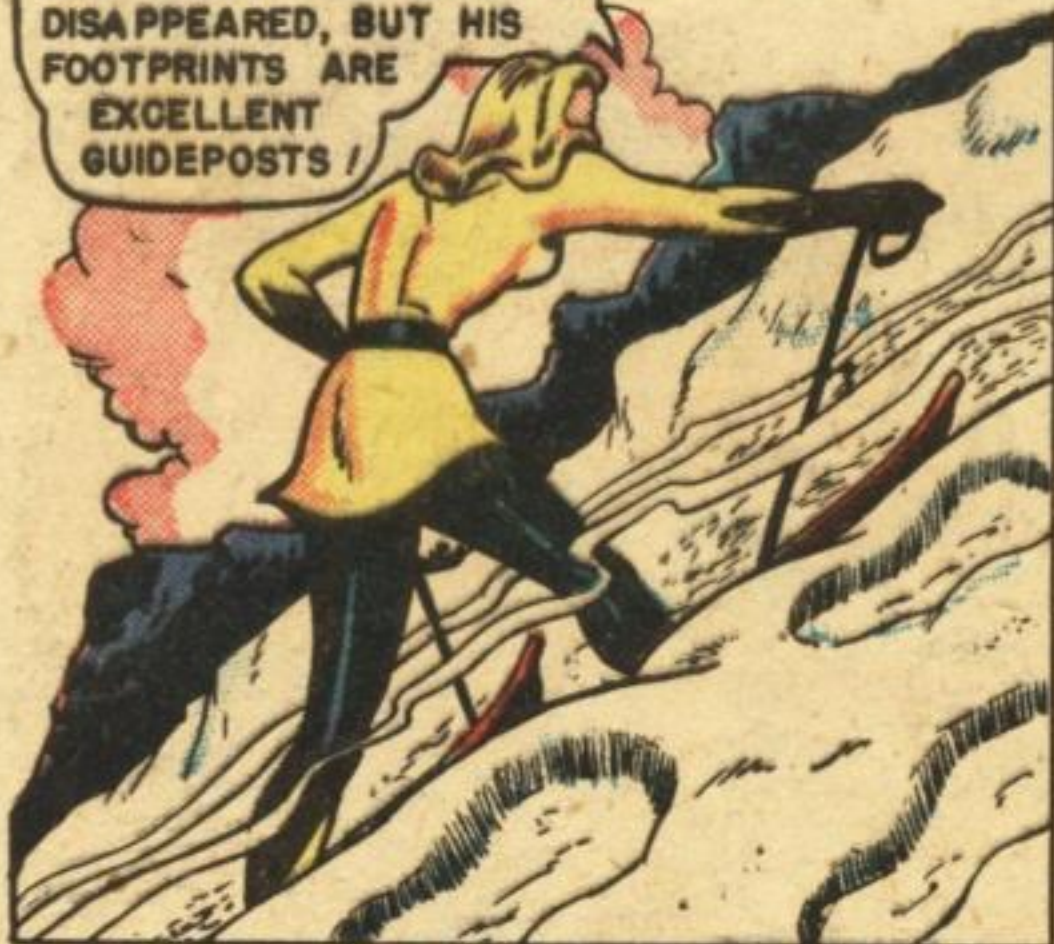
GOOD, BORKOR! GOOD! WE'LL BRING HIM WITH US TO THE LABORATORY, AND DISPOSE OF HIM PROPERLY! **GET GOING!**

TALK ABOUT CALAMITIES... THIS ONE TOPS EVERYTHING! I'D BETTER FOLLOW ON SKIS! HOPE TORCH DOESN'T SUFFOCATE!

JUST THEN SUN GIRL COMES OUT IN TIME TO SEE THE STRANGE, MONSTROUS SIGHT!

A GRUELING HALF-HOUR LATER...

WHEW! THESE UPHILL CLIMBS ARE WORK! THE GIANT'S DISAPPEARED, BUT HIS FOOTPRINTS ARE EXCELLENT GUIDEPOSTS!



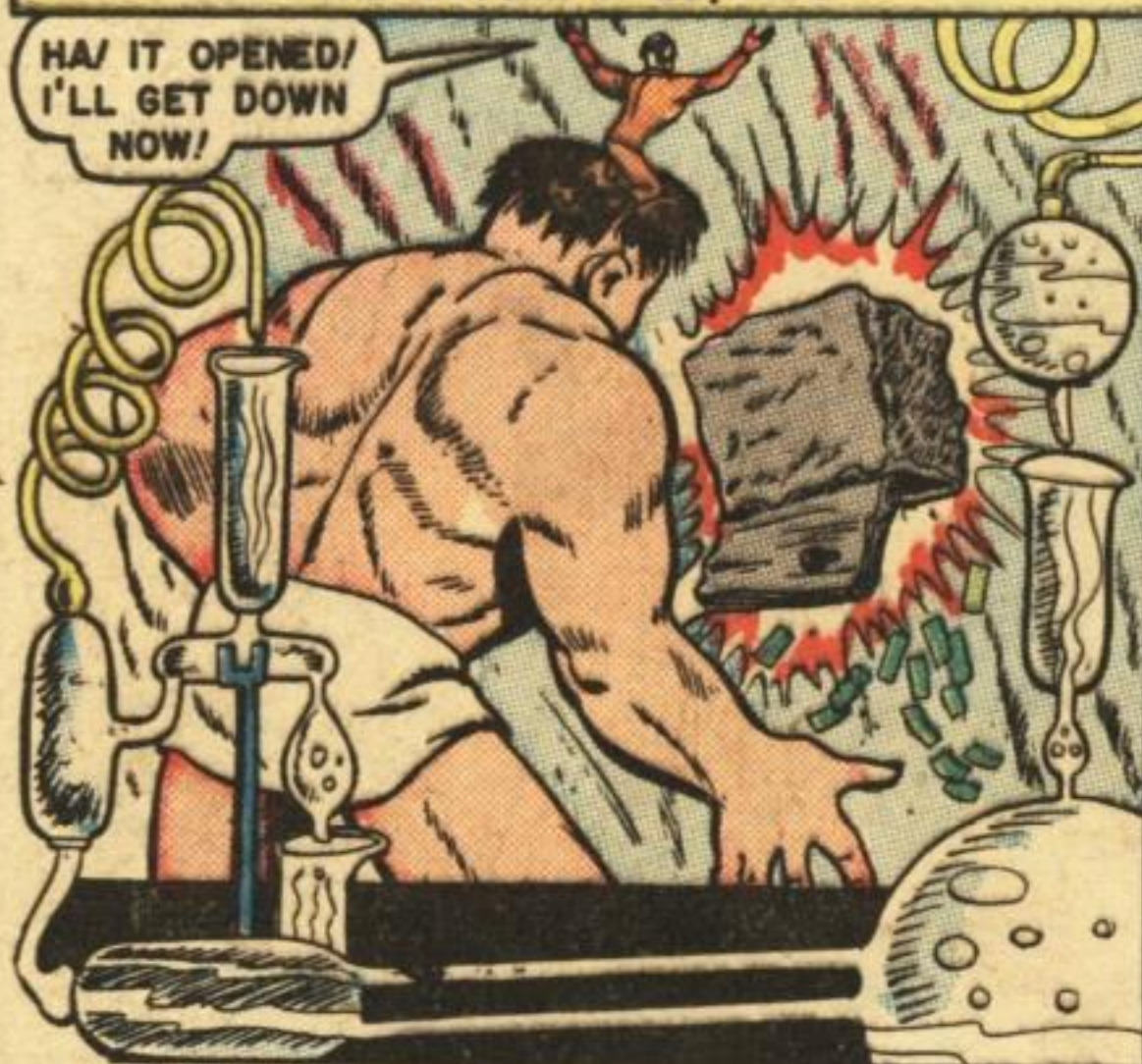
AND SEVERAL MILES AHEAD, THE IMPRESSIVE FIGURE DUCKS INTO A CAVERNOUS OPENING IN A MOUNTAIN SIDE...

TO THE LABORATORY, BORKOR! THEN FLING THE SAFE AGAINST THE ROCK WALL!



THE SAFE IS HURLED WITH BRUTE FORCE AGAINST THE CAVERN WALL, AND...

HA! IT OPENED! I'LL GET DOWN NOW!



THERE'S ENOUGH MONEY HERE FOR ME TO CONTINUE MY EXPERIMENTS...HUH? WHAT IS IT, BORKOR? WHY DO YOU HOLD YOUR FIST OUT TO ME?



THE FORMIDABLE FINGERS FLEX OPEN, REVEALING THE LIMP, NEARLY-SMOTHERED FIGURE OF THE HUMAN TORCH!

OH! THE TORCH! ALMOST FORGOT ABOUT HIM! HMM-M... HE LOOKS HALF DEAD! STILL BREATHING THOUGH!



HAIHA! WHAT BETTER TRIBUTE TO THE FLAMING PERSONALITY OF THE HUMAN TORCH THAN A COLD, WET GRAVE? HAI HA!



MINUTES LATER, SUN GIRL ARRIVES IN TIME TO SEE THE LAST PART OF THE BURIAL CEREMONY...

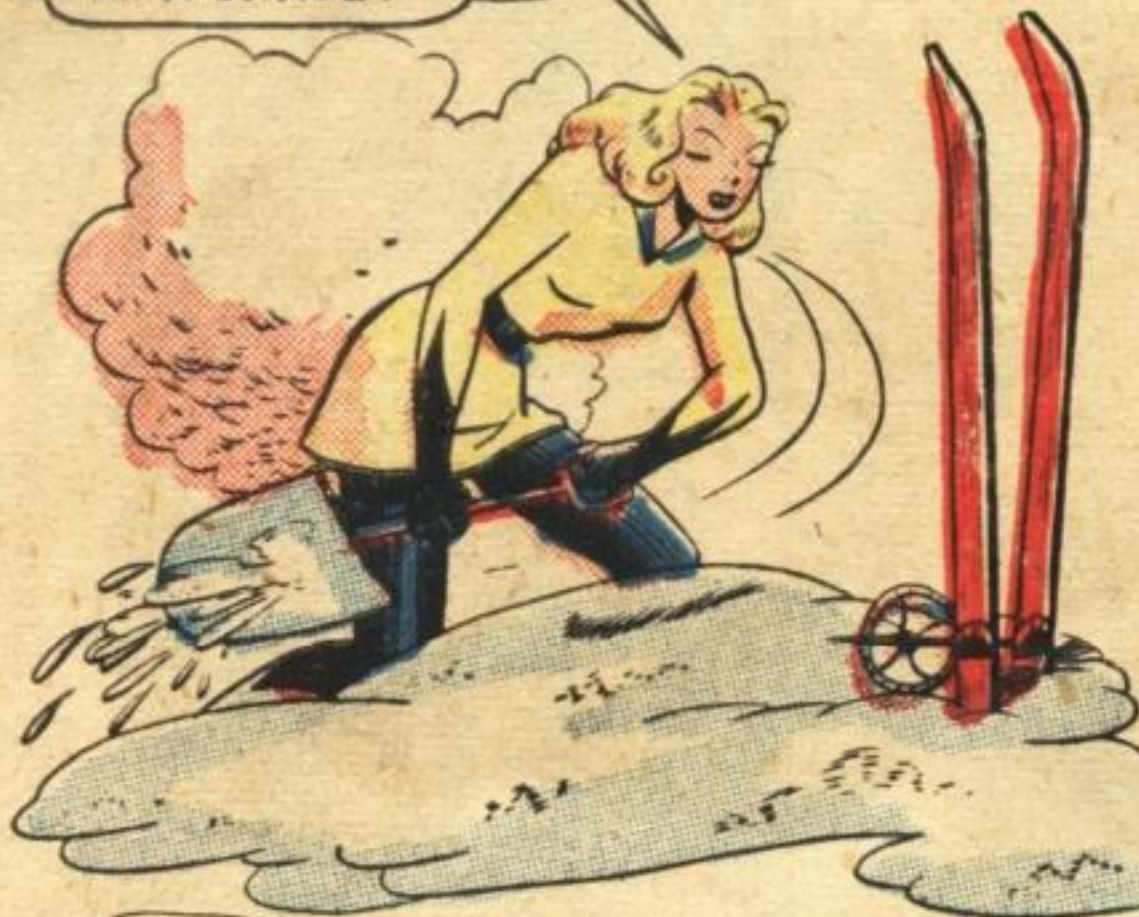
TOO BAD, TORCH... NO EPITAPH! HOWEVER, THIS SHOVEL WILL BE YOUR UNINSCRIBED GRAVE-MARKER!

SAY, THAT'S THE MAN WHO WAS GUIDING THE GIANT!



WHEN PROFESSOR GRIMM LEAVES, SUN GIRL APPLIES HERSELF TO THE TASK OF DIGGING UP THE GRAVE...

WONDER WHAT HE BURIED HERE! LOOKS ALMOST LIKE A... A GRAVE!



WHILE INSIDE THE CAVERN...

COME, BORKOR! I MUST PUT YOU TO SLEEP WHILE I GO INTO TOWN FOR MY SUPPLIES! IT WON'T HURT YOU! LIE DOWN NOW! THAT'S A GOOD BOY!



THERE... FAST ASLEEP! NOW LET'S SEE... YES, THIS LIST IS COMPLETE! **AHH!** SOMEDAY THE WORLD WILL BOW DOWN TO ME AND **ME ONLY!** HA! I'LL LEAVE NOW!

AND OUTSIDE, SUN GIRL HAS MADE A SURPRISING DISCOVERY...

THANKS, KID! WHEN I WOKE UP IN THAT PIT I THOUGHT MY CAREER WAS AT A FINISH!

WELL, WELL! IMAGINE FINDING YOU HERE! **THE HUMAN TORCH...** GOLD AS A CUCUMBER!



THERE GOES THE CAUSE OF IT! WAIT'LL HE GETS OUT OF SIGHT, SUN GIRL! THEN WE'LL GO INSIDE THE CAVE!

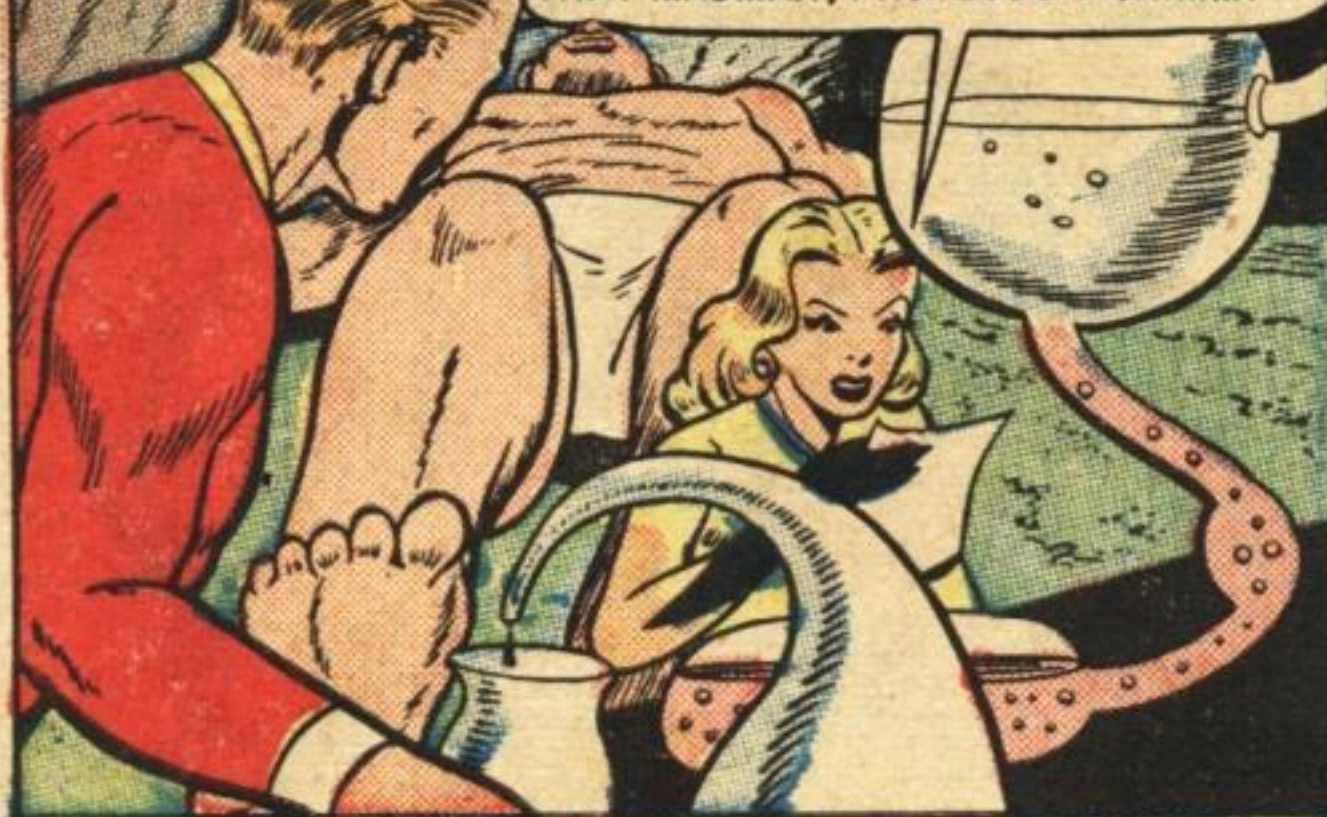
I'D LIKE A FEW THINGS EXPLAINED TO ME, TORCH... BUT MAYBE THE ANSWERS ARE INSIDE THAT HOLE IN THE MOUNTAIN SIDE!



THE DUO DISCOVERS THE SLEEPING GIANT, AND A LITTLE MORE...

WHEW! GOOD THING IT DOESN'T SNORE!

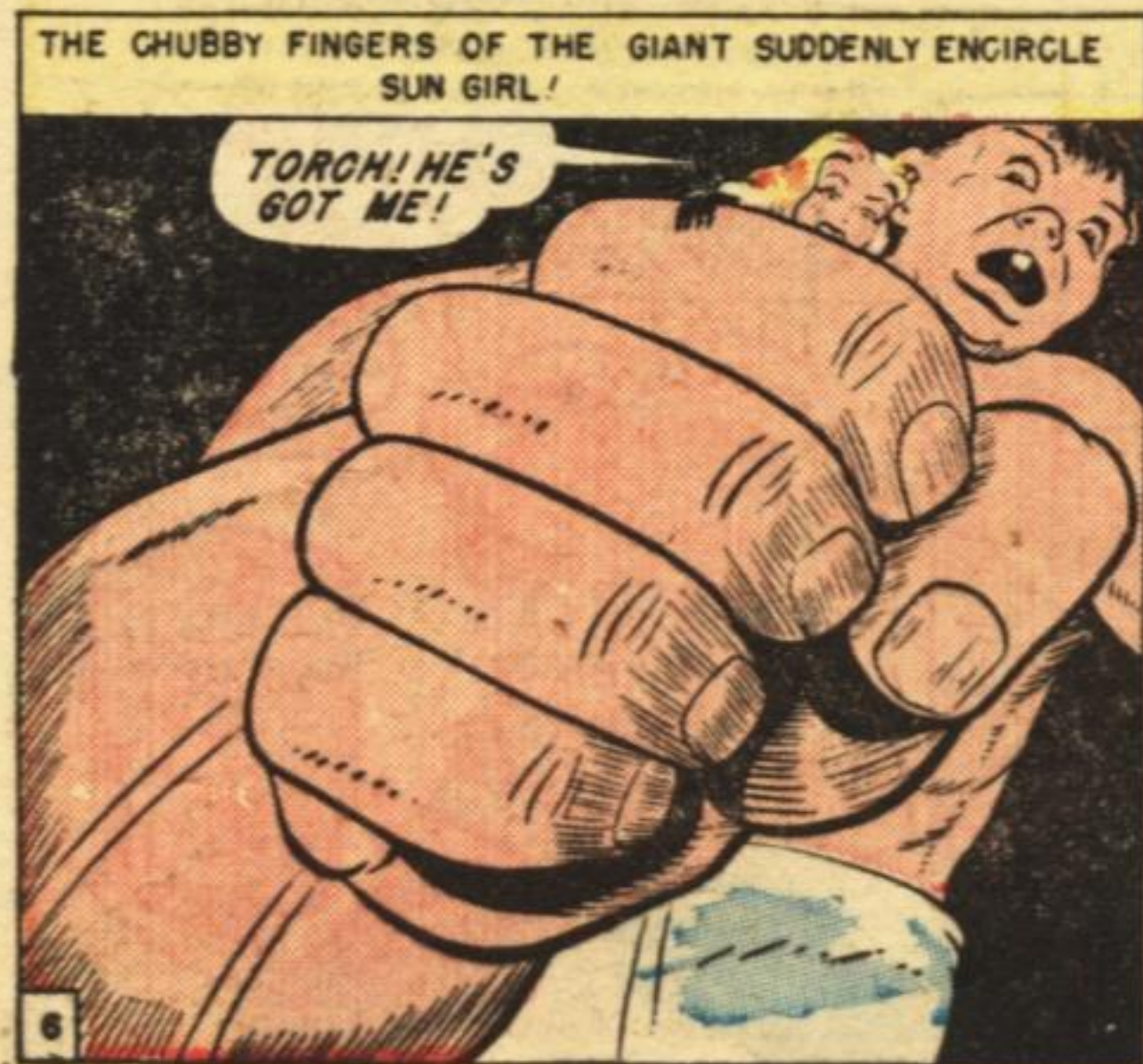
TOROH! TAKE A GANDER AT THE SCRIBBLING INSIDE THIS RECORD BOOK! IT'S A COMBINATION DIARY AND RECORD OF EXPERIMENTS BY THAT MADMAN, PROFESSOR GRIMM!!



LISTEN... KIDNAPED CHILD FROM GENEVA HOSPITAL... FIRST PHASE OF GROWTH ACCELERATOR SUCCESSFUL... CHILD EIGHTEEN FEET IN HEIGHT AT TWO WEEKS... ALSO DISCOVERED FORMULA FOR IMMEDIATE REDUCTION!"

LET ME SEE THAT REDUCTION FORMULA, BEAUTIFUL!





MEANWHILE, PROFESSOR GRIMM, IN THE NEARBY TOWN, WAITS IN THE APOTHCARY FOR HIS CHEMICALS...

ACH, PROFESSOR GRIMM... SOME OF THESE CHEMICALS YOU HAVE BEEN REQUESTING ARE GETTING MORE DIFFICULT TO OBTAIN!

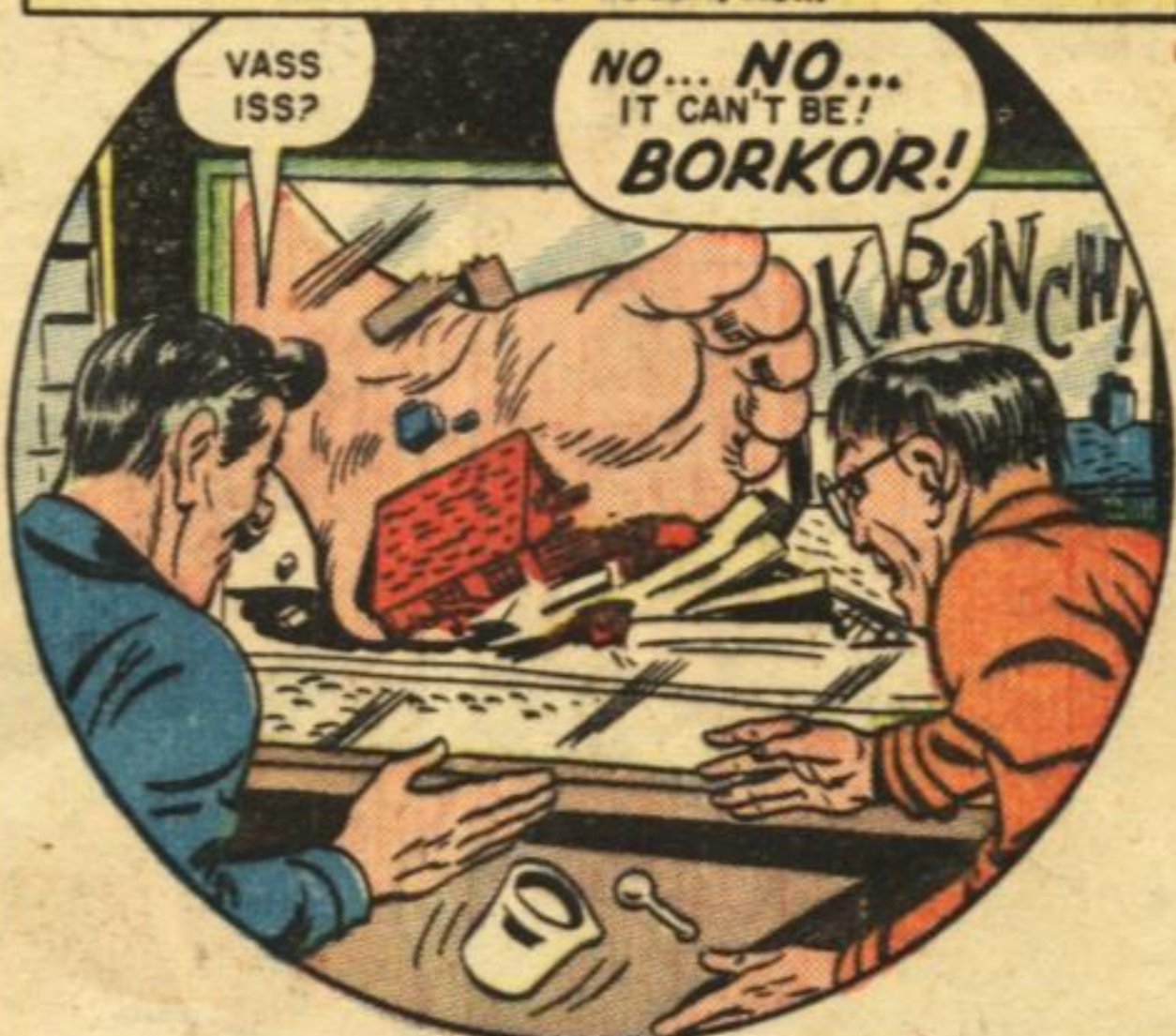
BAH! IF YOU CAN'T KEEP ME SUPPLIED I'LL TAKE MY BUSINESS TO GENEVA!



SUDDENLY... AN EARTH-SHAKING CALAMITY GREETES THE SURPRISED PROFESSOR, AS...

VASS ISS?

NO... NO... IT CAN'T BE! **BORKOR!**



OUTSIDE, GRIMM IS AMAZED TO SEE...

TORCH, ALIVE?

YEAH, MADMAN WE SHOT YOUR PROTEGE FULL OF REDUCTION SOLUTION... SEEMS HE'S GONE **BERSERK!**

YOU CAN FLAME YOUR ARM SOON AS I TOUCH THE GROUND, TORCH!



TORCH DROPS TO THE GROUND, AND INSTEAD... UNFLAMES!

IDIOTIC FOOLS! THE REDUCTION FORMULA WAS UNTESTED ON BORKOR! **YOU MAY DESTROY HIM!**

THAT'S NOTHING COMPARED TO THE DAMAGE YOU URGED HIM TO DO!



NOW HE NEEDS ME... **BORKOR! BORKOR! WAIT! WAIT! STOP!**

YAHHH! IT'S COMING AFTER US!



SUDDENLY, THE TERRIFIED GRIMM STOPS, AS THE PONDEROUS TREE, SNAPPED AT ITS TRUNK BY BORKOR, STARTS FALLING HIS WAY...

BORKOR! NO... NO... AEEEEEE!

FLAMING FIREBALLS! I'VE GOT TO SAVE HIM!



THE TORCH FLAMES... AND ZOOMS TOWARD THE STRICKEN MAN... BUT...

UH-HI TOO LATE!

YAAAGH!



TORCH DOUSES HIS FLAME AND EXTRICATES THE BROKEN, CRUSHED BODY OF THE INFAMOUS GRIMM...

TAKE...TAKE CARE OF HIM, TORCH! HE-HE'S ONLY A BABY! OH HH!

IS HE..?

IT'S ALL OVER!



TORCH! FOR PETE'S SAKE! LOOK!

WOW! INCREDIBLE! WHILE ALL THIS HAPPENED, THE REDUCTION SOLUTION WAS TAKING EFFECT! BORKOR'S DISAPPEARED!



WHAT LUCK! WE DIDN'T HAVE A CHANCE TO WATCH THE REDUCTION, DURING THE EXCITEMENT/IT MUST HAVE HAPPENED LIKE LIGHTNING! YOU'D NEVER THINK THAT CUTE, SHIVERING KID WAS ONCE THE GIANT!

OH, TORCH... HE'S CRYING!



A SPECTATOR LENDS HIS COAT...SUN GIRL SWADDLES THE CHILD IN IT, AND THEN WAITS FOR TORCH'S DECISION...

WE'LL TAKE THE CHILD TO GENEVA AND TRY TO LOCATE ITS PARENTS!

GOOD DEAL...BUT LET'S HURRY! THIS CHILD SHOULD BE WITH THEM!



A HURRIED TELEPHONE CALL TO GENEVA...THE POLICE LOCATE THE FRANTIG PARENTS...AND HOURS LATER, AT THE RAILROAD STATION...

FELIX! FELIX! OH, THANK GOODNESS... HE'S SAFE!

GOSH, TORCH... I COULD CRY!

GO AHEAD! DO SOME FOR ME, TOO!



THE REUNION IS SPIKED WITH AN INVITATION...

WE WERE OUT OF OUR WITS FOR WEEKS! NOW FELIX IS SAFE!

YOU MUST COME TO OUR HOUSE AND BE OUR GUESTS! THAT'S THE LEAST WE CAN DO TO SHOW OUR APPRECIATION!



THAT EVENING, BEFORE THE FIREPLACE, AFTER A HEARTY DINNER...

THERE'S A WOW OF A STORY IN HERE, FELIX, ABOUT JACK, THE GIANT KILLER/ I'LL READ IT TO YOU!

NO, YOU DON'T, TORCH! I'M SURE LITTLE FELIX, IN HIS OWN SMALL WAY, HAS HAD ALL HE WANTS OF GIANTS!

YOU CAN SAY THAT AGAIN!



THE END

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SATISFACTION GUARANTEED on all of the above items.

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SUB-MARINER

HERE IS A STORY WHICH HAS ALL THE INGREDIENTS OF SUSPENSE AND ADVENTURE... A STORY OF SAVAGERY RUN AMOK IN THE DEEPEST JUNGLES OF VENEZUELA... OF A GIRL CAUGHT IN THE CLUTCHES OF A WILD WAR-TRIBE... OF DANGER AND DEATH... AND OF THE DANGERS FACED BY **SUB-MARINER** AND **NAMORA** WHEN THEY BATTLE THE...

"WAR-CRY OF THE JUNGLE!"



THROUGH THE WILD, TROPICAL FOREST BORDERING THE GREAT **ORINOCO RIVER** IN THE SOUTH AMERICAN STATE OF **VENEZUELA**, **NAMOR** AND **NAMORA** SEARCH FOR **BETTY DEAN** AND A LOST PARTY OF AMERICAN EXPLORERS...



IT WAS RIGHT ABOUT HERE THAT THEY WERE LAST SEEN...

SSSHHH-H!
LOOK,
NAMOR!

JUMPIN' JELLYFISH!
CARIB SAVAGES IN FULL WAR-DRESS!

THEY HAVEN'T SEEN US...
LOOK! ONE OF THEM DROPPED SOMETHING WHITE IN THE WATER!
I'LL GET IT...



THE WARRIORS OUT OF SIGHT, NAMORA RETRIEVES AND EXAMINES THE FLOATING OBJECT...

A WHITE-MAN'S SUN HELMET! IS THERE A NAME ON THE SWEAT-BAND, NAMORA?

IT SAYS 'R. P. DENTON'... WHY, HE WAS ONE OF BETTY'S PARTY! DO YOU SUPPOSE THE CARIBANS KILLED HIM?



PROBABLY! THE CARIBANS ARE ONE OF THE FEW TRIBES WHO STILL PRACTICE **CANNIBALISM!** BUT THERE'S A CHANCE THAT THE OTHERS ARE JUST PRISONERS... **WE'VE GOT TO FIND THEM!** YOU TRAIL THAT **WAR-PARTY** BY **WATER**, AND I'LL FOLLOW THEM BY **LAND!**

OKAY! I'M ON MY WAY!



AN HOUR LATER, NAMOR STOPS ABRUPTLY AT THE RIVER'S EDGE...

SUFFERIN' SHAD! THERE THEY ARE! WHAT'S THAT INTERPRETER TELLING THEM?

CHIEFTAIN SAY... WE **SACRIFICE** YOU... TO GODS... YOU NOT WELCOME IN OUR LAND! SO YOU **DIE!**



THE EXPLORERS ARE STUNNED!

OH NO! YOU - YOU CAN'T DO THAT! BY - BY GOLLY, IF YOU'RE GOING TO FINISH ME, YOU'RE GOING TO HAVE TO **WORK** FOR IT!



BETTY MAKES A SUDDEN DASH TOWARD THE RIVER!

STOP!

FOLLOW ME, MEN! I PREFER LIVING FOR A LONG TIME YET!

OOG HAHGA!

LOOK OUT!



— AND TRIPS!

OOG HAHGA!

GET HER!

OH NO!



SHOY NAGGAH! WHITE WOMAN TRY TO
ESCAPE...MAKE CHIEFTAIN **VERY ANGRY!**
SO...SACRIFICE THEM TO OUR GODS!
CHIEFTAIN SAY WE START **NOW!**
HOLA!



HEARING THIS, NAMOR FLIES INTO A RAGE!

OH, NO YOU DON'T, BUDDY! YOU'VE GOT
THE **SUB-MARINER** TO RECKON
WITH, FIRST!



OOP-PH!
YEOW!

I WASN'T **INVITED** TO THIS BANQUET,
BUT I DON'T APPROVE OF YOUR
MENU, ANYWAY!

NAMOR!
LOOK OUT!!!



EEEEEE-EYAH!

HO! NOW...CHIEFTAIN
REAL FURIOUS!
HE SAY...WE FINISH
YOU FOR GOOD! NOW
HE SEND FOR CHIEF
EXECUTIONER!

MEANWHILE, HIDING ON THE RIVER-BANK...

OH-OH! LOOKS LIKE THE KIDS ARE
REALLY IN TROUBLE...AND I CAN'T
HANDLE ALL THOSE BABIES **ALONE!**
I'LL HAVE TO DIVERT THEIR
ATTENTION...BUT **QUICK!**



NAMORA SWIMS RAPIDLY A HUNDRED YARDS DOWNSTREAM . . .

A CRUDE **LEVEE**, DAMMING
THE RIVER FROM A DRY BRANCH!
SAY! THIS GIVES ME AN
IDEA!



RACING BACK TO THE BANK AT THE EDGE OF
THE SETTLEMENT, SHE QUIETLY CONFISCATES
SEVERAL UNGUARDED WAR-CANOES . . .

THIS MAY BE CRAZY STRATEGY, BUT —
IT'S GOT TO WORK !!!



MOMENTS LATER, AFTER FRANTIC SPLIT-SECOND WORK . . .

CANE STALKS TIED TOGETHER WITH
RIVER-RUSHES . . . FROM A DISTANCE
THEY'LL LOOK LIKE **CAMOUFLAGED**
WARRIORS — I HOPE!



MEANWHILE . . .

BRING GIRL AND STRANGE MAN TO
SACRIFICIAL ALTAR . . . CHIEFTAIN SAY WASTE
NO MORE TIME! OTHER PRISONERS WILL
WITNESS CEREMONY . . . **COME!**



IMMEDIATELY, NAMOR AND BETTY ARE LED TO A HUGE
FUNERAL PYRE, AND PLACED ON TOP OF IT

NAMOR! CAN THEY BE **SERIOUS?**
WILL THEY REALLY GO THROUGH
WITH IT?

I'M AFRAID SO, BETTY!
I WONDER WHERE NAMORA
IS?





I SAY, JEPSON, THE **SUB-MARINER'S** SUPPOSED TO BE SOMETHING OF A SUPERHUMAN— BUT HE OBTAINS HIS STRENGTH FROM **WATER**, AND HE'S **DRY AS A BONE** NOW! HOW CAN HE **POSSIBLY** GET US OUT OF **THIS** FIX?

I DON'T KNOW, BUT— **LISTEN!** THE CHIEFTAIN SEEMS TO BE SAYING SOMETHING...



O SACRED GOD OF SUPREME MIGHT! WE HUMBLY OFFER UP THESE FOREIGN INFIDELS IN THE **HOLY RITE OF SACRIFICE**, AND PRAY THAT THEIR HEARTS' BLOOD WILL APPEASE YOUR ANGER, AND GIVE US THE **STRENGTH** TO DEFEAT **OUR ENEMIES!**

A HUGE SAVAGE STEPS UP TO THE VICTIMS!



GREAT HEAVENS! LOOK AT THE SIZE OF THAT KNIFE, NAMOR!

DON'T GIVE UP, BETTY! WHERE THERE'S **LIFE** THERE'S **HOPE!**

THE HEADSMAN LUNGES FIRST AT BETTY—BUT...



NOT SO FAST, NATURE-BOY! IF YOU'RE GOING TO PLAY AT **BUTCHERING**, YOU CAN START WITH **ME!**



SUB-MARINER MAKES A VISE OF HIS LEGS, CATCHING THE SAVAGE IN A GRIP OF IRON!

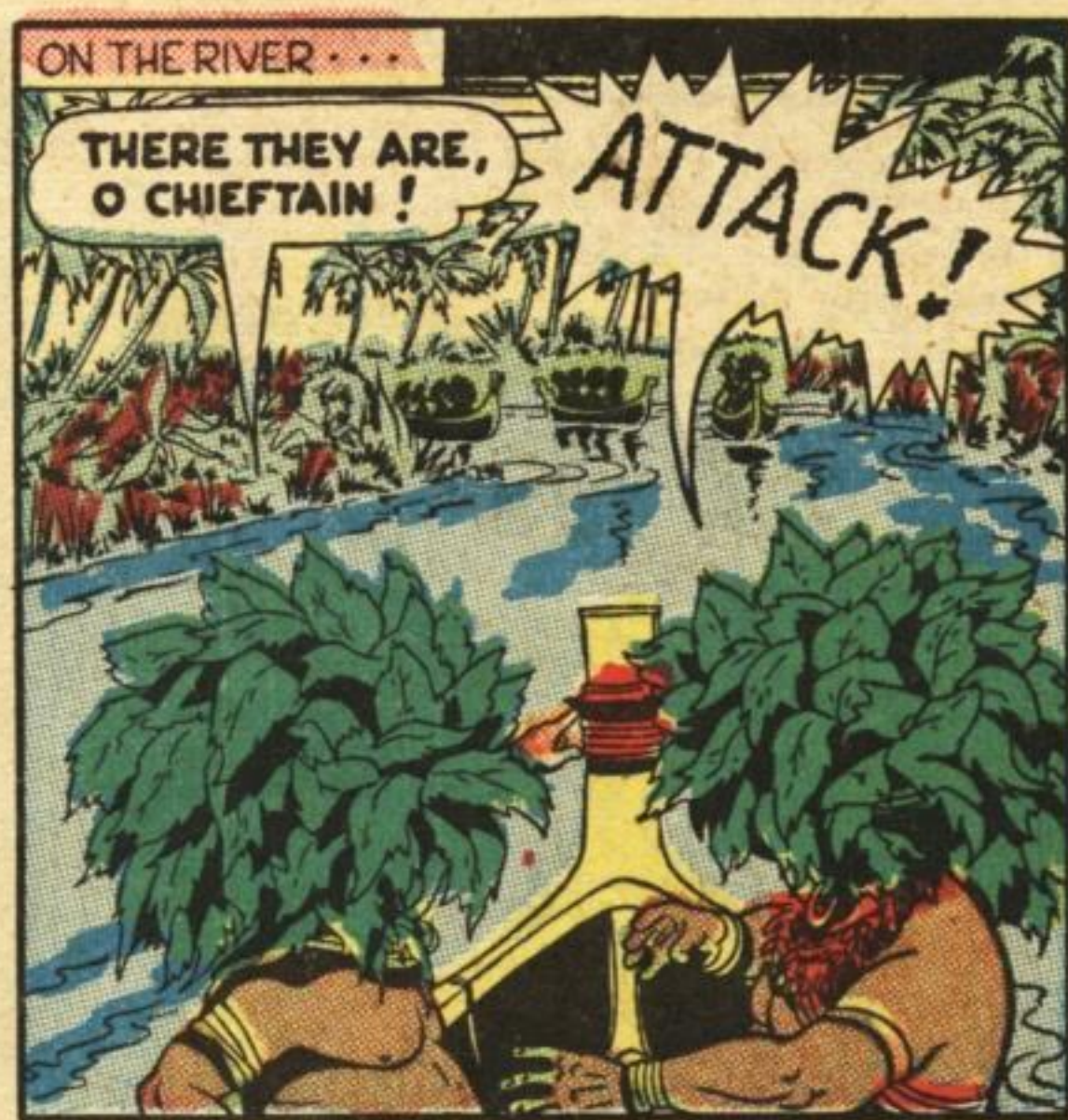


SUDDENLY...

EEE-YIII-OOOO!

WAR CRIES!

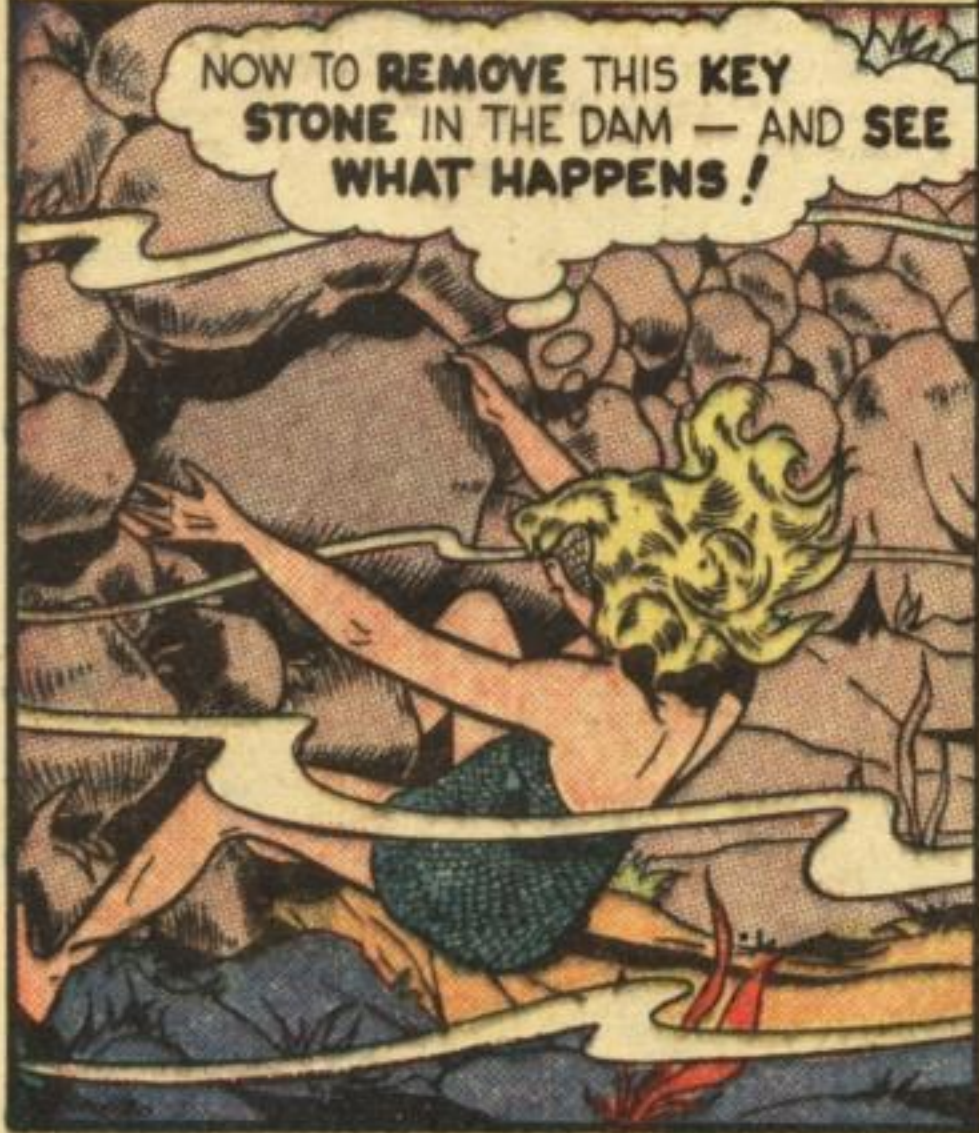
THE ENEMY!



WITH A HAIR-RAISING WAR CRY, THE UNSUSPECTING SAVAGES ATTACK THE CAMOUFLAGED CANOES—HURLING POISONED ARROWS IN THE "ENEMIES" PATH! WHAT THEY THINK IS A VICTORIOUS MASSACRE IS REALLY NAMORA'S PLAN WORKING TO PERFECTION!

MEANWHILE, DOWNSTREAM - UNDERWATER . . .

NOW TO REMOVE THIS KEY
STONE IN THE DAM — AND SEE
WHAT HAPPENS!



INSTANTLY, THE DAM BREAKS!!!

LOOK
OUT!

THE CURRENT'S CARRYING
US OFF THE RIVER!
WE'LL GO OVER THE
ANCIENT RAPIDS!

-AND THOSE WAR
CANOES WERE
FAKED!
THIS IS A
TRAP!!!

OOGAH!



NAMORA RACES BACK TO THE SETTLEMENT . . .

THAT DISTRACTED 'EM, ALL RIGHT! SAY—!
JUST ONE WARRIOR GUARDING THE PRISONERS—
GOOD! THIS SPEAR, AND MY GOOD RIGHT ARM,
AND . . .



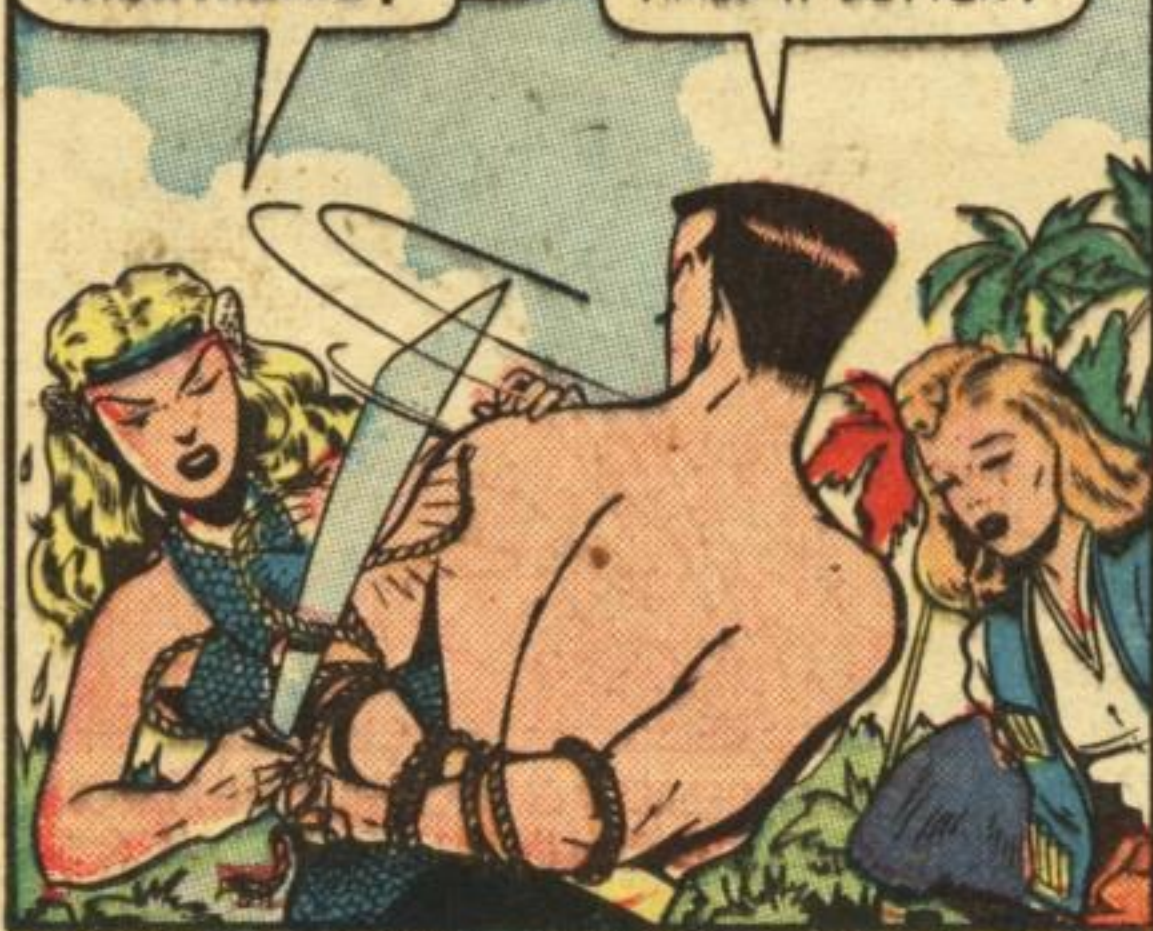
NAMORA'S TRUE AIM KNOCKS THE GUARD OUT COLD!



QUICKLY, NAMORA PICKS UP A FALLEN MACHETE . . .

COME ON, KIDDIES—TIME.
WE WOKE UP FROM THIS
NIGHTMARE!

GOOD WORK, NAMORA!
YOU COULDN'T HAVE
TIMED IT BETTER!



THERE'S A COUPLE OF CANOES LEFT — LET'S GET
OUT OF HERE, WHILE THE GETTING'S GOOD!

IF WE CAN ONLY SLIP PAST
THE DAM WITHOUT
BEING SEEN!



SECONDS LATER ...

HOY-AH! THERE
THEY ARE!
AFTER THEM!!!

OH-OH! TOO LATE! SOME OF
'EM MUST HAVE ESCAPED THE
RAPIDS! KEEP YOUR
HEADS DOWN!



THIS WILL NEVER DO! COME ON, NAMORA —
LET'S GIVE 'EM THE OLD TIDAL WAVE
ROUTINE! FOLLOW ME!



YI!

HELP!

UGH!

WHOOSH

GLURP!

GLUB!



WITH A POWERFUL LUNGE, SUB-MARINER DIVES UP UNDER
THE BOAT, LIFTING IT OUT OF THE WATER AND CREATING
HAVOC!

IF ANY OF 'EM CAN SWIM, THEY JUST MIGHT
SURVIVE! BUT WE'RE SAFE — LET'S GET
BACK TO THE OTHERS!

HA! IF ANY OF
'EM DO SURVIVE, IT
ISN'T LIKELY THEY'LL
FOLLOW US NOW!



FOUR HOURS LATER, THE QUINTET REACHES THE SEA ...

WE OWE YOU OUR LIVES,
NAMORA! I DON'T KNOW
WHAT WE'D HAVE DONE
IF YOU AND THE **SUB-MARINER**
HADN'T FOUND US!

FORGET IT, DOCTOR! I'M JUST
SORRY WE WERE TOO LATE
TO SAVE YOUR FRIEND
DENTON, TOO ...



... AND THE FOLLOWING DAY ...

WELL - THERE'S ANOTHER
FEATURE-STORY FOR
YOUR NEWSPAPER WHEN
WE GET BACK TO THE
STATES, BETTY!

GOSH! I WAS JUST
WONDERING WHAT
WOULD HAVE HAPPENED
IF NAMORA HADN'T
KNOWN HOW TO GIVE THE
WAR-CRY OF THE CARIB'S
ENEMIES!



THE END



"HELLO there, son. You're the new club member, aren't you? Well, sit right down and take it easy a while. Which is your boat? Oh . . . that red sloop out at the end of the dock, eh? Nice looking job . . . a real man's boat.

"Yep, sure is nice to see nothing but real men around the Yacht Club now. For a while there this here club was going straight to pieces, but I guess you heard about that blow-up, didn't you?

"What's that? Nobody ever told you! Well then, son, it's about time you got brought up to date on the history of our organization. We're a proud old bunch in these parts and I guess you'll feel the same way when you hear about Sam the Beachcomber and how he came to be elected Commodore of the Club.

"You see, 'way back in colonial days, this outfit was more'n a club . . . that came later . . . it was a real honest-to-goodness sailing outfit. The folks that lived along the shore here used to sail out to ships that had been abandoned during a storm or something and salvage all they could. That was the way the people made their living.

"Plenty of times they saved all the people on board those ships too, and many were the good men lost attempting a difficult rescue. In those days the men had a fleet of small, fast craft that could get before the wind and outsail anything afloat. Came in mighty handy during the Revolution, too. In those days they'd patrol the seas beyond the horizon, spot British warships coming in and scoot back to warn the people so they'd have their defenses ready.

"It was the custom then that the fellow who

owned the biggest boat in the club was automatically elected Commodore. Well, that rule just followed right down the line until this very day. After the Revolution the seafaring ships were made bigger and stronger and hardly ever broke up in the storms, so the people here turned to fishing. Finally all that was left of the adventuresome days was the Yacht Club here where the boys used to gather to talk over old times.

"Anyway, it wasn't so long ago that a lot of high-faluting tourists with more money than brains found this town, and they flocked in here like ducks on a pond. Before long you couldn't recognize the place. Each one wanted a bigger house than the next one, and it wasn't safe to cross the street anymore for fear of being run down by a limousine.

"It didn't take those snooty folks long to discover the Yacht Club. A few of them got in and that was the end of it for old timers like us. They voted in more and more of their friends until we got disgusted and hardly ever come near the place. They spent a fortune putting up this building and fixing the dock and all. Maybe it's a good thing they did. The old building would have fallen in by now.

"Well, the rules of the club are that anybody with a boat can belong to the club, and the one with the biggest boat is the Commodore. They went and spent millions on yachts trying to have the biggest one afloat. In the old days Henry Coogan was the Commodore for thirty years because he had a sixteen ton sloop, but to them rich fellers, that was no better than a dory.

"They put up signs that no self-respecting sailor would stand for. Why, we even had to wipe



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WESTERN STYLE CORDUROY JACKET
IS A DANDY! REAL SUEDE
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the mud off our shoes before we went inside! The women went and put curtains on the windows and tried to get rid of our trophies, but we snagged them in time.

"It was awful. First one, then the other would drop out of the club. Sure, we were mad, but what could we do about it? I used to go down the beach where Sam, the Beachcomber spent his time dragging in stuff from the surf to sell to the junkie, and we'd talk about the good old days, but that never got us anywhere.

"Sam, you know, was a former club member too, but he broke so many rules they told him to stay out. A fine thing! Why, Sam was the one that put up the dock, and all his own work, too! They wouldn't let him in the club because he always needed a shave and would never wear a coat. Yep, the Yacht Club sure fell apart at the seams. Some of the other boys would drop in once in a while, but they always felt out of place and never stayed long.

"It was while the big race for Commodore was on that Sam called a general meeting of old members. We gathered down in his shack and he asked us how we'd like to take over the club once more. Naturally, we were all for that, of course, but he wouldn't let us in on his scheme. He told us to be down at the club that Saturday afternoon for the monthly meeting . . . without fail.

"We figgered and figgered, but we couldn't see how Sam was going to get all those stiff shirts out and us back in again. We did find out that he got some of the younger fellers . . . boys what had been in the navy during the last war . . . to help him out, but even they wouldn't talk.

"It seemed like Saturday would never come, but when it did we all showed up for the meeting. Boy, you should have seen their faces when we came up the walk. We sat down on the dock and listened to the chatter and heard a couple of fat guys argue about whose boat was the biggest. Right then one of them stopped with his mouth wide open and pointed to the cove. Yep, my eyes bugged out too.

"Around the sand spit that forms the cove comes Johnny Leeds in his power dory, and being towed behind him is the biggest submarine you ever laid eyes on! And who do you think is shouting orders from the conning tower? That's right . . . Sam, the Beachcomber. They pull up to the dock and Sam steps down and takes over the meeting. Right then he tells those big wigs that he is taking over the job as Commodore because his submarine is bigger than anything that's ever been in the bay.

"Son, there were more red faces that day than on a beachful of sun bathers. Half them people just got up without a word and marched off. You think they wanted a raggedy guy like Sam for Commodore? Shucks, no! Some of the men tried to argue about it, and they even called in the government, but that submarine . . . yep, the one you see right out there floating at anchor . . . was Sam's own personal property!

"What did you say? Oh . . . how'd he get it. Well, one day when he's beachcombing he sees this thing that looks like a periscope. It kept coming up and up. Sam rowed out to it, and sure enough, it was a Nazi submarine. It stayed just a little under the water, rising about an inch an hour. Sam got an anchor on it and kept it there. Then one night he and the boys went out to find it right up on the surface. Johnny Leeds was a sub man himself, you know, and he got it open.

"Not a soul was inside, and there was evidence that all the men had escaped through the safety hatch. From the barnacles and seaweed on it, the sub had been under for almost five years. You see, what had happened was this . . . one day the sub must have crash-dived, and something stuck in the valve system so she couldn't surface again. Well, ever since then the compressed air in her tanks had been leaking back into the hull containers very slowly until she blowed herself right to the surface!

"Hey . . . there's Sam now. Come on over and meet the Commodore, son!"

THE END

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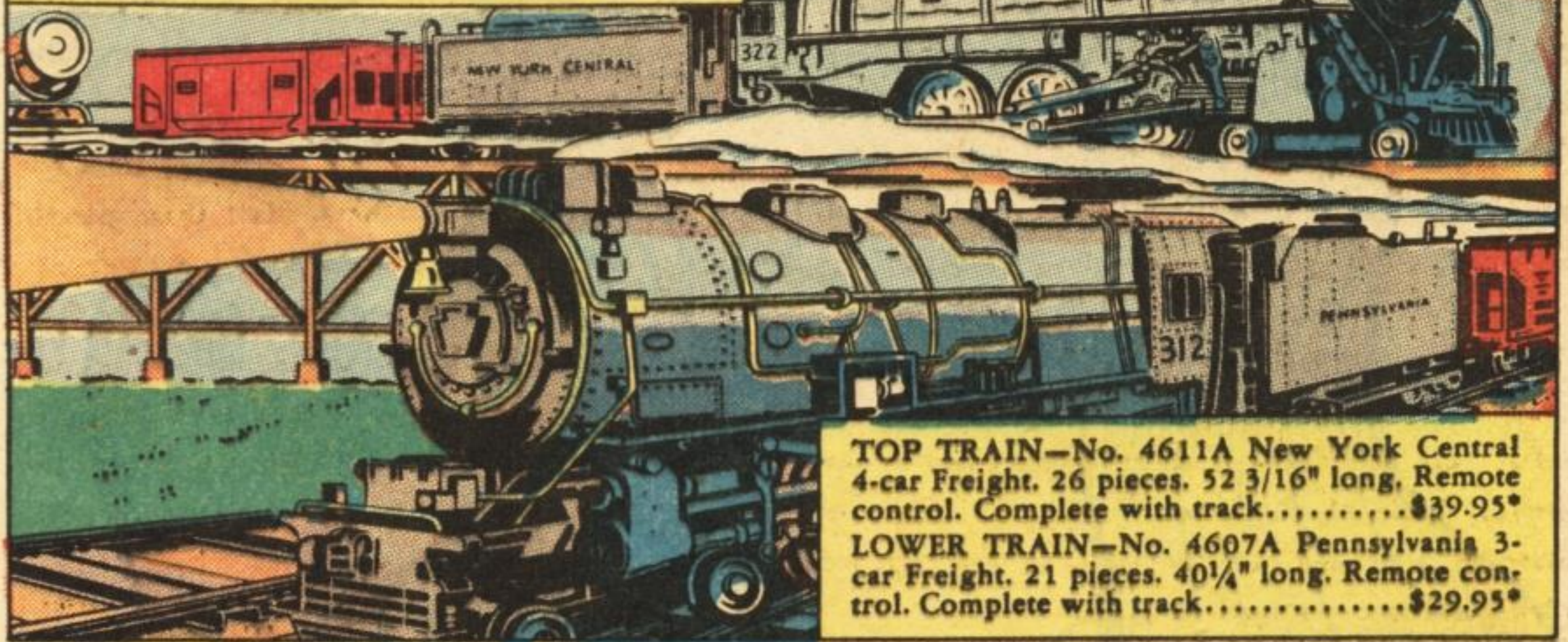
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BLONDE PHANTOM

"UNMASKED!"



THERE ARE TIMES WHEN EVEN A PRIVATE DETECTIVE HAS SOMETHING ON HIS MIND...

POOR MARK! HE REALLY SEEMS TO HAVE A PROBLEM! I WONDER WHAT'S BOTHERING HIM...



I WISH HE'D TELL ME WHAT'S WRONG! IF LOUISE GRANT CAN'T DO ANYTHING, THEN SURELY THE BLONDE PHANTOM CAN!



LET'S TAKE A LOOK INTO MARK'S MIND AND SEE WHAT IT IS THAT'S TROUBLING HIM...

IT'S BEEN WEEKS SINCE I'VE SEEN THE BLONDE PHANTOM! I WONDER WHERE SHE'S BEEN KEEPING HERSELF?



WHY COULDN'T I HAVE FALLEN IN LOVE WITH SOME NICE UNCOMPLICATED GIRL LIKE LOUISE? WHY DID IT HAVE TO BE SOMEONE WHOSE REAL IDENTITY I DON'T EVEN KNOW?



BUT, WHY SHOULDN'T I KNOW WHO SHE *REALLY* IS? WHY *SHOULD* IT BE A *SECRET*?

WHAT IS IT, MARK? WHAT DO YOU WANT?

WRITE A NOTE TO THE BLONDE PHANTOM, AND RUN IT IN THE PERSONAL COLUMN OF THE TIMES!

THE BLONDE PHANTOM?

YES, OF *COURSE!* WHAT'S SO UNUSUAL ABOUT *THAT*?

LOUISE, COME HERE, *QUICKLY!*



OH, NOTHING! PROCEED, BOSS!

BLONDE PHANTOM, MEET ME AT THE MAIN STREET WAREHOUSE, TONIGHT, AT MIDNIGHT! THERE'S GOING TO BE A HOLDUP...



...AND THE FEATURE ATTRACTION WILL BE THE *UNVEILING OF THE BLONDE PHANTOM!*



THAT NIGHT, IN LOUISE'S APARTMENT...

WELL, IT'S ELEVEN O'CLOCK! I'D BETTER HURRY IF I'M GOING TO KEEP MY APPOINTMENT WITH MARK!



A CHANGE OF CLOTHES...AND LOUISE GRANT BECOMES THE BEAUTEOUS BLONDE PHANTOM...

THERE'S SOMETHING FUNNY ABOUT ALL THIS! I WONDER WHY MARK NOTIFIED **ME** INSTEAD OF THE **POLICE!**



BUT, IF I KNOW MARK, HE MUST HAVE HAD A PRETTY GOOD REASON!



I'LL DRIVE IN THIS ALLEY! IT WOULDN'T EVER DO FOR MARK MASON TO SEE LOUISE GRANT'S CAR NEAR HERE!



A FEW MINUTES LATER...

I'D BETTER BE PRETTY CAREFUL! THE HOLDUP THUGS MAY HAVE PLANTED A LOOKOUT! OH! FOOTSTEPS!



WHEW, THAT WAS CLOSE! WHY, IT'S ONLY THE NIGHT WATCHMAN! GUESS I'VE GOT THE JUMPS!



GOLLY, BUT IT'S DARK! WELL, HERE GOES...



INSIDE THE WAREHOUSE...

I GUESS MARK ISN'T HERE YET! WELL, MAYBE IT WON'T HURT TO TAKE A LOOK AROUND!



IF THE HOLDUP MEN ARE HERE, I SURE HOPE THEY AREN'T LISTENING VERY CAREFULLY!

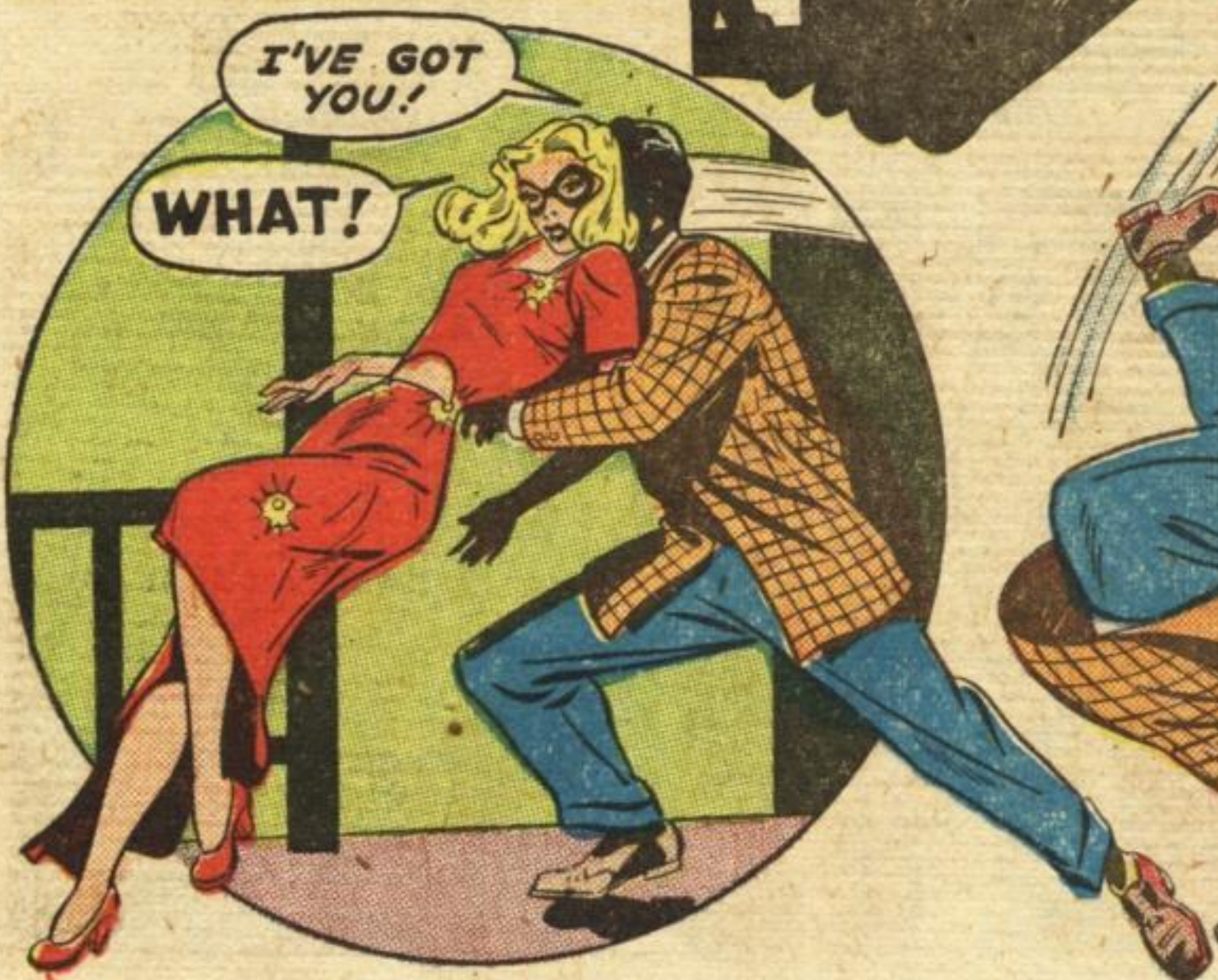


IT'S JUST **TOO** QUIET AROUND HERE! I HAVE THE FEELING THAT SOMEONE'S WATCHING ME!



I'VE GOT YOU!

WHAT!



HEY! QUIT! HELP!

THAT'S WHAT YOU THINK!



NOTHING'S AS SWEET TO MY EARS AS THE SOUND OF A HOODLUM BOUNCING DOWN THE STEPS!

AAAAH!



NOW... SUPPOSE YOU TELL ME WHERE YOUR FRIENDS ARE!

WAIT, BLONDE PHANTOM! IT'S ME... MARK MASON!

WHY... MARK!



MARK...OH...MARK... WHY DIDN'T YOU TELL ME? DID I HURT YOU?

NO, I'M ALL RIGHT...BUT I'M AFRAID **THIS** IS GOING TO HURT YOU!



BUT I *HAVE* TO KNOW WHO YOU REALLY ARE!

MARK! MARK! DON'T!



MARK SWIFTLY TEARS THE MASK FROM HER FACE... REVEALING...

LOUISE! LOUISE GRANT! NOW YOU KNOW! NOW EVERYTHING IS SPOILED! WHY DID YOU HAVE TO DO THAT, MARK?



CAN IT BE TRUE?... IS MARK MASON TO KNOW THE IDENTITY OF THE BLONDE PHANTOM, AT LAST?

BUT, WAIT A MINUTE, BLONDE PHANTOM... YOU *BET* EVERYTHING IS SPOILED! LOUISE GRANT, YOU CERTAINLY HAVE YOUR NERVE... IMPERSONATING THE **BLONDE PHANTOM**!



HE DOESN'T CATCH ON!

NOW...**WHY** DID YOU DO IT? SUPPOSE THERE HAD **REALLY** BEEN A HOLDUP TONIGHT! YOU WOULD HAVE RUINED **EVERYTHING**!

I'M SORRY, MARK...BUT IT WAS JUST THAT YOU WERE ALWAYS TALKING ABOUT THE BLONDE PHANTOM AND I...I WAS JUST JEALOUS!



NOW, I **NEVER** WILL FIND OUT WHO THE BLONDE PHANTOM IS!

NOT IF I CAN HELP IT!



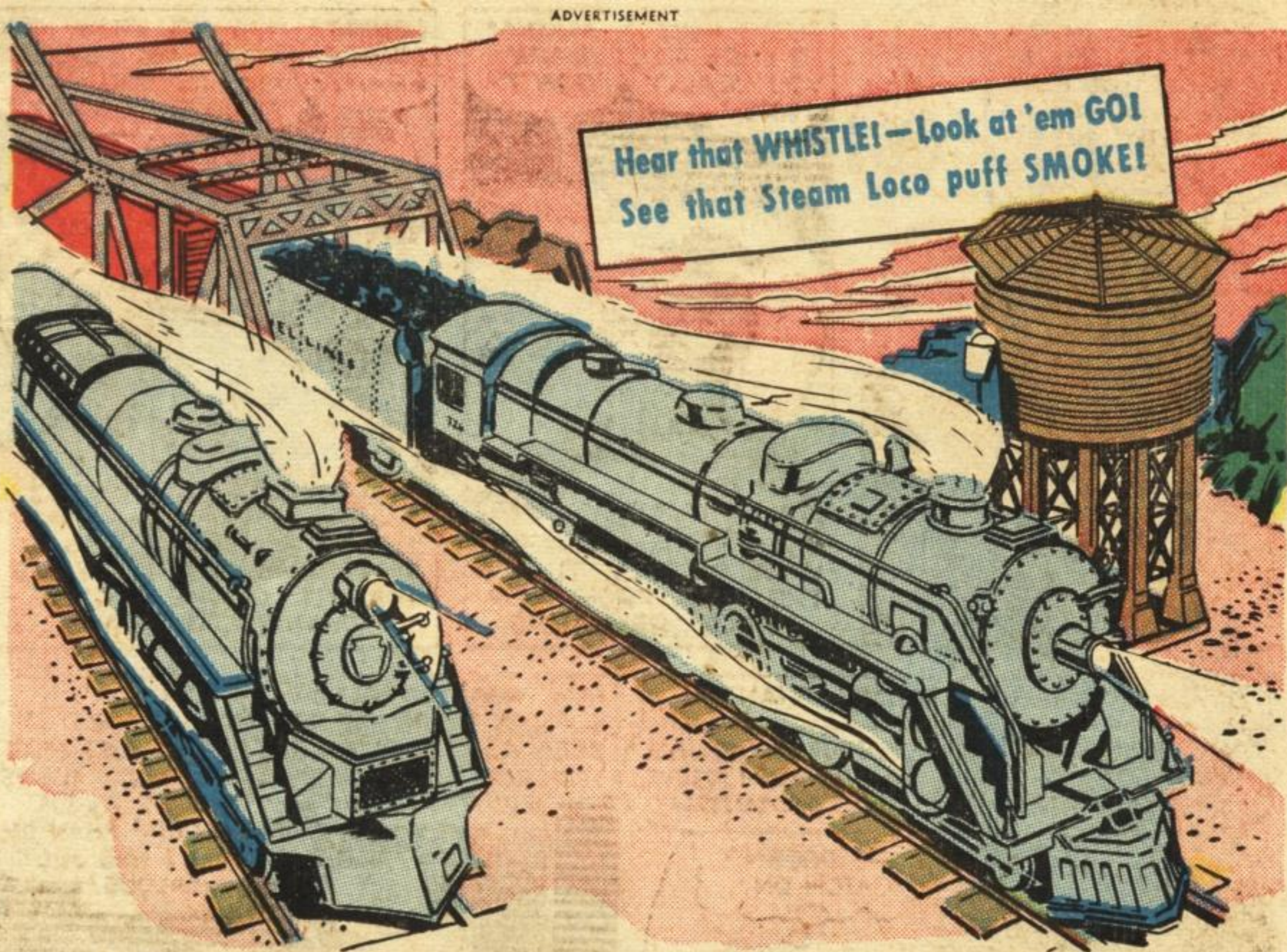
BUT IT'S HARD TO STAY ANGRY ON A ROMANTIC NIGHT...

SO YOU WERE JEALOUS OF THE BLONDE PHANTOM, EH? YOU KNOW, I HATE TO ADMIT IT, BUT YOU **DO** LOOK SORT OF CUTE IN THAT BLONDE PHANTOM COSTUME!



UMM! A MOON... A BEAUTIFUL NIGHT... AND MARK! WHO CARES **WHO** THE BLONDE PHANTOM REALLY IS!

THE END



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SUN GIRL



WHAT IF YOU LOOKED OUT OF YOUR WINDOW ONE NIGHT AND SAW THIS SIGHT BEFORE YOU IN THE SKIES? IMPOSSIBLE TO BELIEVE, ISN'T IT? AND YET... THAT LITTLE STAR YOU SEE GLISTENING IN THE BLACK OF NIGHT CAN BE THE OBJECT YOU SEE BEFORE YOU NOW! IT IS STILL UP THERE, THE ANSWER TO A GRIM SECRET LOCKED WITHIN ITS BODY... A SECRET KNOWN ONLY TO *SUN GIRL* AND YOU WHEN YOU READ...

"The **VENGEANCE** of the **SPACE MONSTER!**"

A METALLIC-SHEATHED HORROR FLOATS DREARILY THROUGH THE AIR, WITH A SCREAMING VICTIM CLUTCHED IN A WRITHING TENTACLE... AS SUN GIRL PLAYS A STAR ROLE IN A DRAMA OF TERROR!

YAH-H-H! STOP IT, SUN GIRL! DO SOMETHING... PLEASE, I'LL DIE IN THE RARIFIED ATMOSPHERE!

YOU SHOULD'VE THOUGHT OF THAT BEFORE, ELMO! NOW IT'S TOO LATE!

NO... NOT YET! THE MAGNET-MACHINE MAY BE ABLE TO BRING THAT MONSTER BACK!

YES... THERE'S A CHANCE IF WE HURRY!

WHAT GOES ON HERE? ARE WE STARTING A STORY IN THE MIDDLE? RIGHT! FIRST... MEET ELMO VANDAL WHO, AS YOU CAN SEE, IS PRETTY MUCH IN TROUBLE!

NEXT, MEET PROF. LOWE, WHO THINKS HIS INVENTION WILL SAVE ELMO!

STOP! I WON'T LET YOU SAVE THAT MURDERER'S MISERABLE LIFE! I'LL SHOOT ANYONE WHO GOES THROUGH THIS DOOR!

INEZ! AS YOUR FATHER, I COMMAND YOU TO PUT THAT GUN DOWN!

IT'S NO USE, PROFESSOR LOWE!

AND NOW IT'S TIME TO MEET A THIRD PARTY, INEZ, LOWE'S DAUGHTER, WHOSE HAND HOLDS A DANGEROUS GUN, BLOCKING THEIR ENTRANCE TO GET TO THE MAGNET-MACHINE, THE ONLY THING THAT CAN SAVE ELMO'S LIFE!

WITH TERRIFIC SPEED, SUN GIRL WHEELS AROUND TO CATCH INEZ OFF GUARD...

SORRY, INEZ...WE'VE GOT TO SAVE ELMO VANDAL EVEN IF HE IS A KILLER!

NO! DON'T PLEASE... LET HIM DIE!

BUT... THERE WAS A TIME WHEN INEZ LOWE WOULD HAVE DONE ANYTHING FOR ELMO VANDAL... ESPECIALLY THAT DAY WHEN HER FATHER FIRST BROUGHT HER TO HIS LABORATORY A FEW WEEKS AGO... AND SHE WAS INTRODUCED TO HIS ASSISTANT... ROGER REED...

... SHE'S DETERMINED WE DON'T USE THE MAGNET-MACHINE... AND NOTHING ELSE WILL BRING THE COSMIC CREATURE BACK TO EARTH!

(SOB!) HE-HE MURDERED ROGER... KILLED HIM! (SOB!) NOW IT'S HIS TURN TO DIE!



I HOPE THE MAGNET-MACHINE IS SHAPING UP, ELMO! I PROMISED SUN GIRL AN INTERVIEW WITH YOU THIS AFTERNOON!

ANY TIME, PROFESSOR LOWE... DOES SHE KNOW THE NATURE OF THIS WORK?

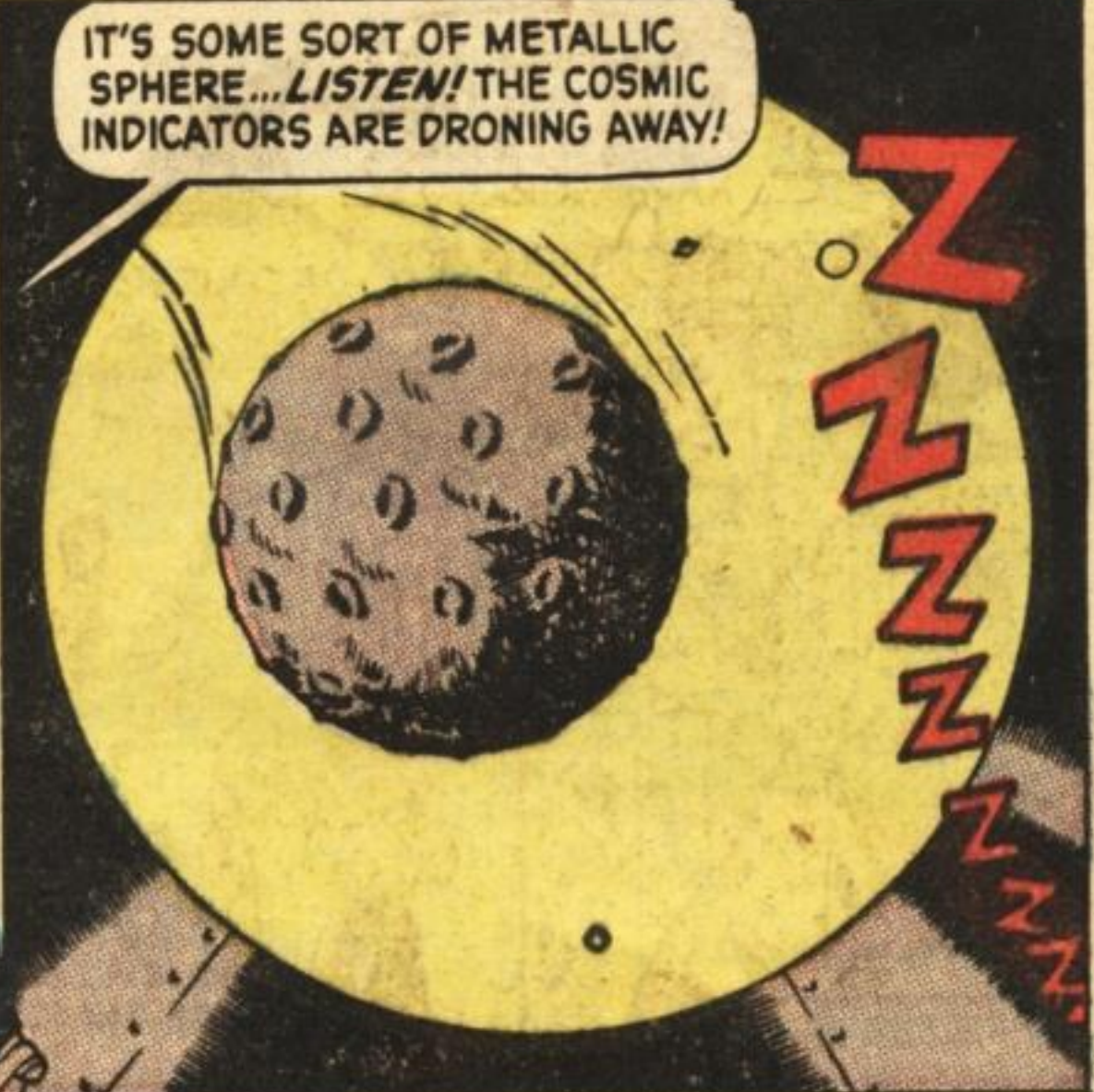
VAGUELY! I EXPLAINED YOUR THEORY OF THE DIVISION OF COSMIC RAYS... NEW COSMIC RAYS... AND HOW YOU INTEND TO DRAW THEM FROM OUTER SPACE INTO YOUR LAB WITH THE MAGNET-MACHINE

PRECISELY!

ELMO! COME OVER HERE AT ONCE! LOOK AT WHAT I SPOTTED IN THE TELESCOPE!

PARDON ME, PROFESSOR LOWE!







PLEASE...I WANT ALL OF YOU TO CLEAR OUT! ROGER AND I HAVE WORK TO DO!

OF COURSE, ELMO! WE UNDERSTAND!



GRACIOUS, FATHER! MR. VANDAL LOOKED QUITE ANGRY! DO YOU THINK HE'S ALL RIGHT?

THE SHOCK UPSET HIM A BIT! HE'LL BE OKAY! I'M SORRY YOUR INTERVIEW SOURED, SUN GIRL, BUT IT WILL BE NO GOOD TO DISTURB HIM NOW!

ABOUT A MONTH LATER, AS SUN GIRL WINDS UP HER REPORT ON THE STRANGE EVENTS!

I-I HATE TO DISTURB YOU, SUN GIRL, BUT IT'S ABOUT ELMO AND ROGER...

YOU CAN WEEP ON MY SHOULDER, INEZ! WHAT'S THE TROUBLE?



EVER SINCE THE ACCIDENT, ELMO HAS CHANGED! ROGER TOOK ME INTO THE LAB YESTERDAY, AND ELMO PRACTICALLY THREW ME OUT!

THEY BOTH HAVE BEEN WORKING HARD LATELY, HAVEN'T THEY?



YES...NIGHT AND DAY TO IMPROVE THE MAGNET-MACHINE ELMO ESPECIALLY...AS IF AN EVIL POWER HAS PUT SOME MAD PURPOSE BEHIND HIM! FUNNY, BUT I THINK THAT SPHERE ROGER DISCOVERED HAS SOMETHING TO DO WITH IT!



YOU MAY HAVE SOMETHING THERE, BUT I WOULDN'T WORRY TOO MUCH! GO TO A MOVIE...HOME...ANY PLACE! KEEP OCCUPIED UNTIL THEY'VE FINISHED THEIR WORK!

I GUESS YOU'RE RIGHT! THAT'S WHAT I GET FOR FALLING IN LOVE WITH A SCIENTIST!



THAT EVENING, SUN GIRL DISCARDS HER WORK FOR A MORE IMPORTANT TASK...

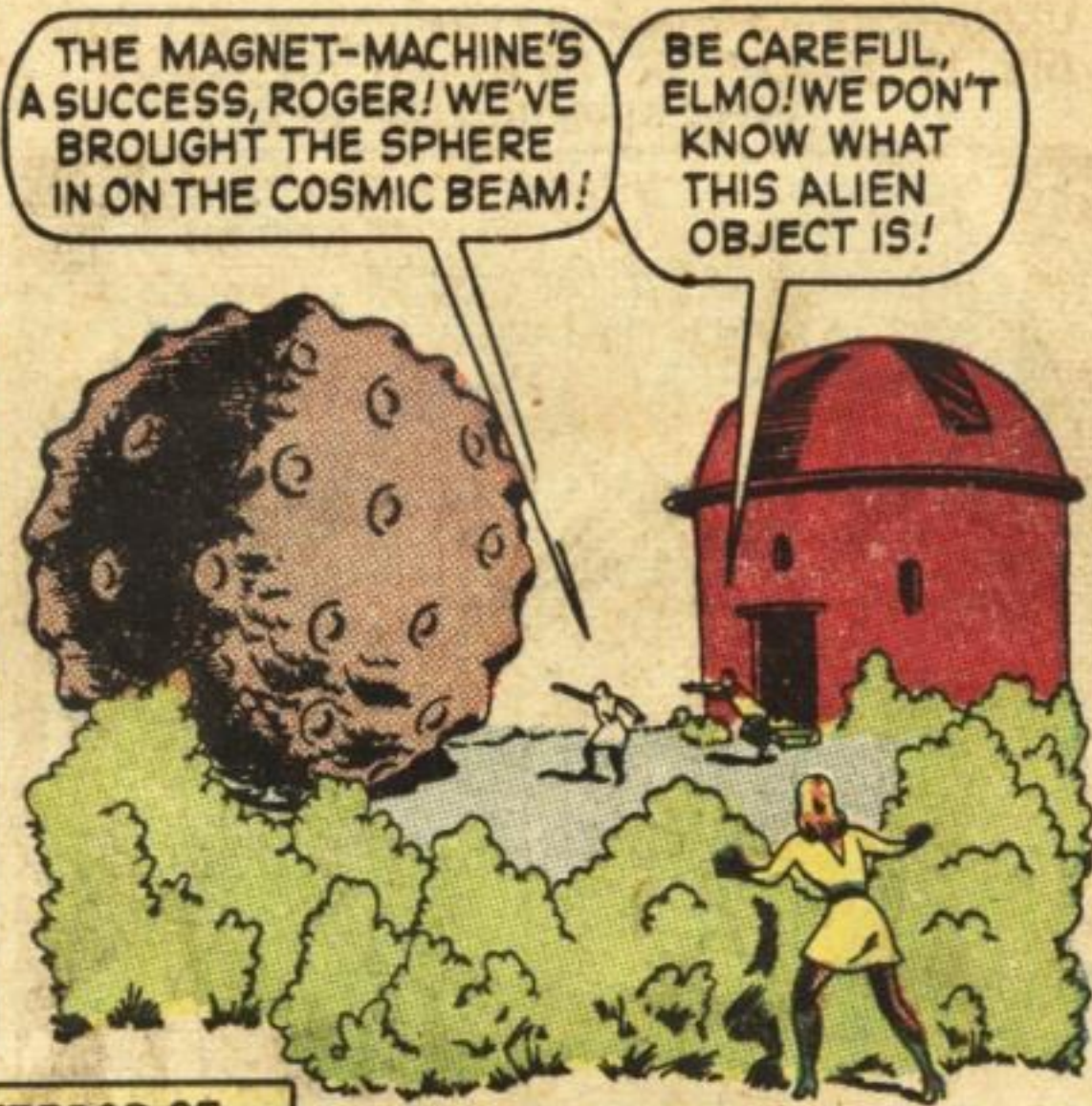
THIS IS THE FIRST TIME I EVER PLAYED CUPID, AND I...**GREAT HEAVENS!** WHAT'S THAT COMING DOWN?





IT'S THE
COSMIC
SPHERE!

SLOWLY, PONDEROUSLY, THE
STRANGE MASS OF METAL
SETTLES DOWN ON THE EARTH!
THE TIME HAS COME FOR A
SHOW-DOWN BETWEEN HUMAN
AND...MONSTER!



THE MAGNET-MACHINE'S
A SUCCESS, ROGER! WE'VE
BROUGHT THE SPHERE
IN ON THE COSMIC BEAM!

BE CAREFUL,
ELMO! WE DON'T
KNOW WHAT
THIS ALIEN
OBJECT IS!

A GLISTENING TENTACLE
LUMBERS OUT OF A PORTHOLE,
WRAPPING ITSELF AROUND ELMO...



I'LL BLAST THAT
ARM TO PIECES!

NO, ROGER,
DON'T
SHOOT!

BUT THE WRITHING ARM
FINDS A GOLDEN-HAIRED
VICTIM... **SUN GIRL!**



AS IF IN DREAD TERROR OF
THE METAL SLUGS, THE
TENTACLE WHIPS ABOUT TO
AVOID THE ILL-AIMED SHOTS!

STOP IT,
YOU FOOL!



BANG!
BANG!

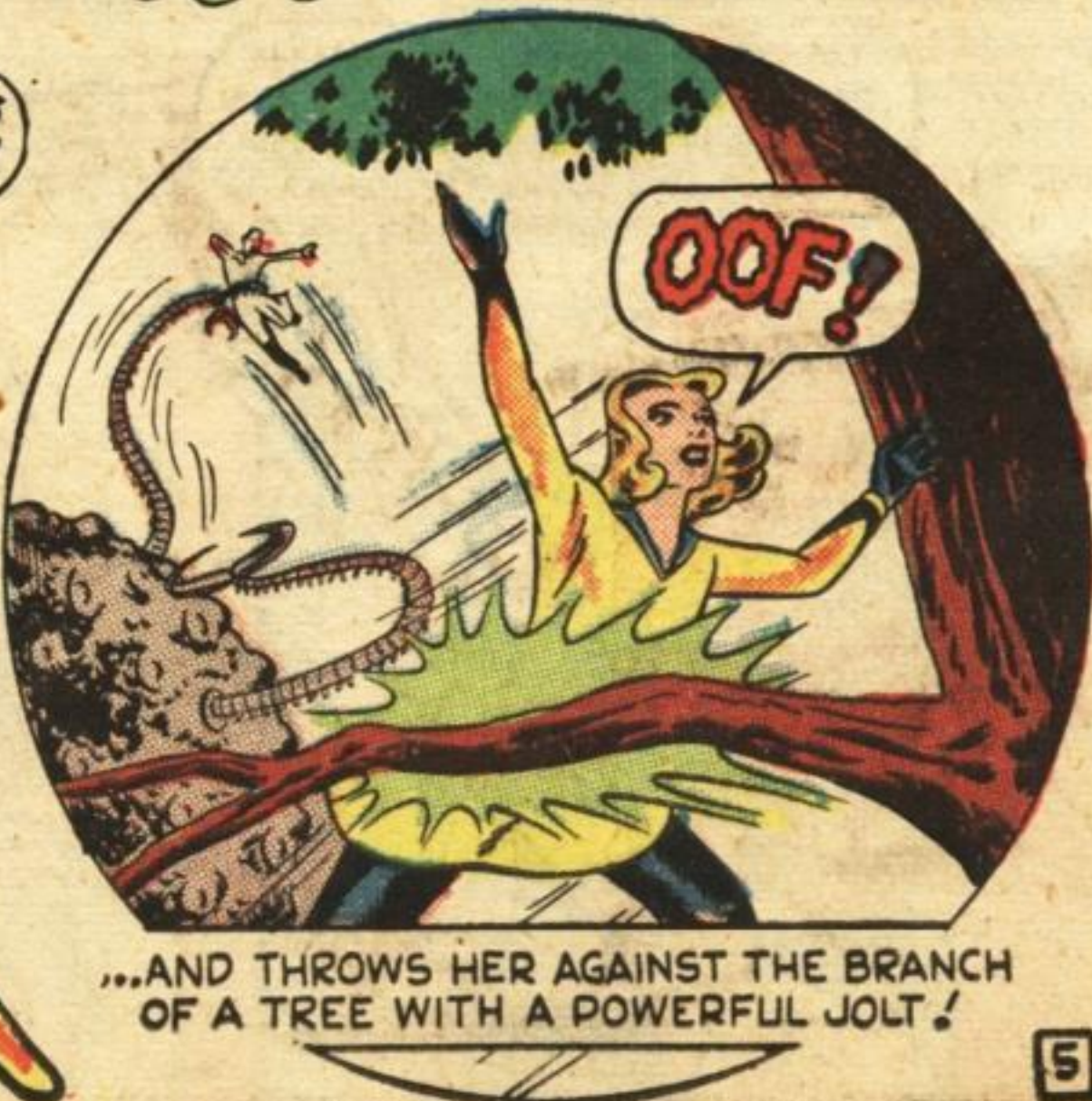
GOOD GRIEF! THIS
THING'S GOT ME!



WHEW! THAT
SWEEP ALMOST
POLISHED YOU
OFF!

(ULP!)

SUN GIRL'S TACKLE SAVES
ROGER FROM A CLUTCH-
ING TENTACLE THAT JUST
MISSES HIM!



OOF!

...AND THROWS HER AGAINST THE BRANCH
OF A TREE WITH A POWERFUL JOLT!

UNCONSCIOUS FROM THE TERRIFIC IMPACT, SUN GIRL IS UNAWARE OF THE STARTLING DRAMA UNFOLDING BELOW HER...



YOU ALMOST WRECKED EVERYTHING, IDIOT! THE COSMIC SPHERE HAS AN INTELLIGENCE SUPERIOR TO OURS! IT WAS INSTRUCTING ME ALL THE WHILE HOW TO BUILD THE MAGNET-MACHINE TO GUIDE IT TO EARTH!

YES... *IT* CAUSED THE "ACCIDENT"! THE SURGE OF COSMIC ENERGY INTO MY BRAIN ATTUNED ME TO THE SPHERE'S THOUGHTS! WE HAVE GREAT PLANS TOGETHER... POSSIBLY **WORLD CONQUEST!** IT'S TRAVELLED ONE BILLION LIGHT-YEARS JUST TO FIND ME!

ELMO, YOU'RE RAVING NONSENSE!



AND AT THAT VERY MOMENT, PROFESSOR LOWE AND HIS DAUGHTER ARE ABOUT TO ROUND A CURVE LEADING TO ELMO VANDAL'S LABORATORY...

SORRY TO DRAG YOU UP HERE, DAD, BUT I AM WORRIED ABOUT ROGER!

I UNDERSTAND! I'VE WANTED TO TALK TO ELMO FOR A LONG TIME!

DAD! LOOK! WHAT IS IT?

GREAT DAY! I DON'T KNOW! UNLESS...



MEANWHILE, SUN GIRL REGAINS CONSCIOUSNESS...

UH-H... NASTY BLOW! HMM... THIS IS NO PLACE FOR ME TO BE TAKING NAPS!

I'LL DESTROY THE MAGNET-MACHINE BEFORE THAT HORROR DRIVES YOU MAD!



I'M SORRY, ROGER! THE COSMIC SPHERE WISHES IT THIS WAY!

OH! I'M TOO LATE TO STOP HIM!

AGHHH!

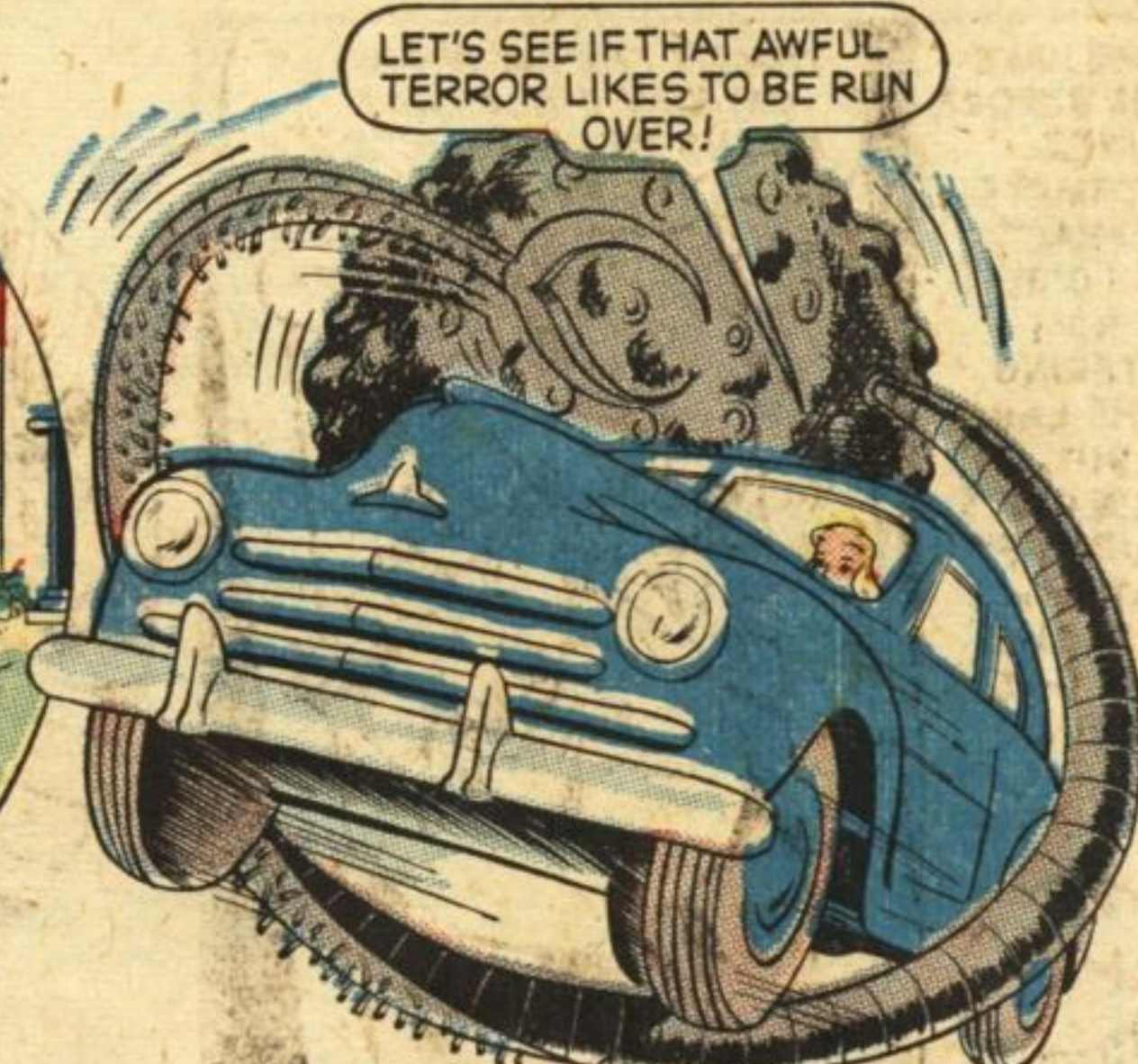
BANG! BANG!



YOUR CRAZED, TWISTED MIND BACKFIRED, ELMO! YOU'RE MIXED UP WITH MURDER!

WHA... YOU AGAIN?

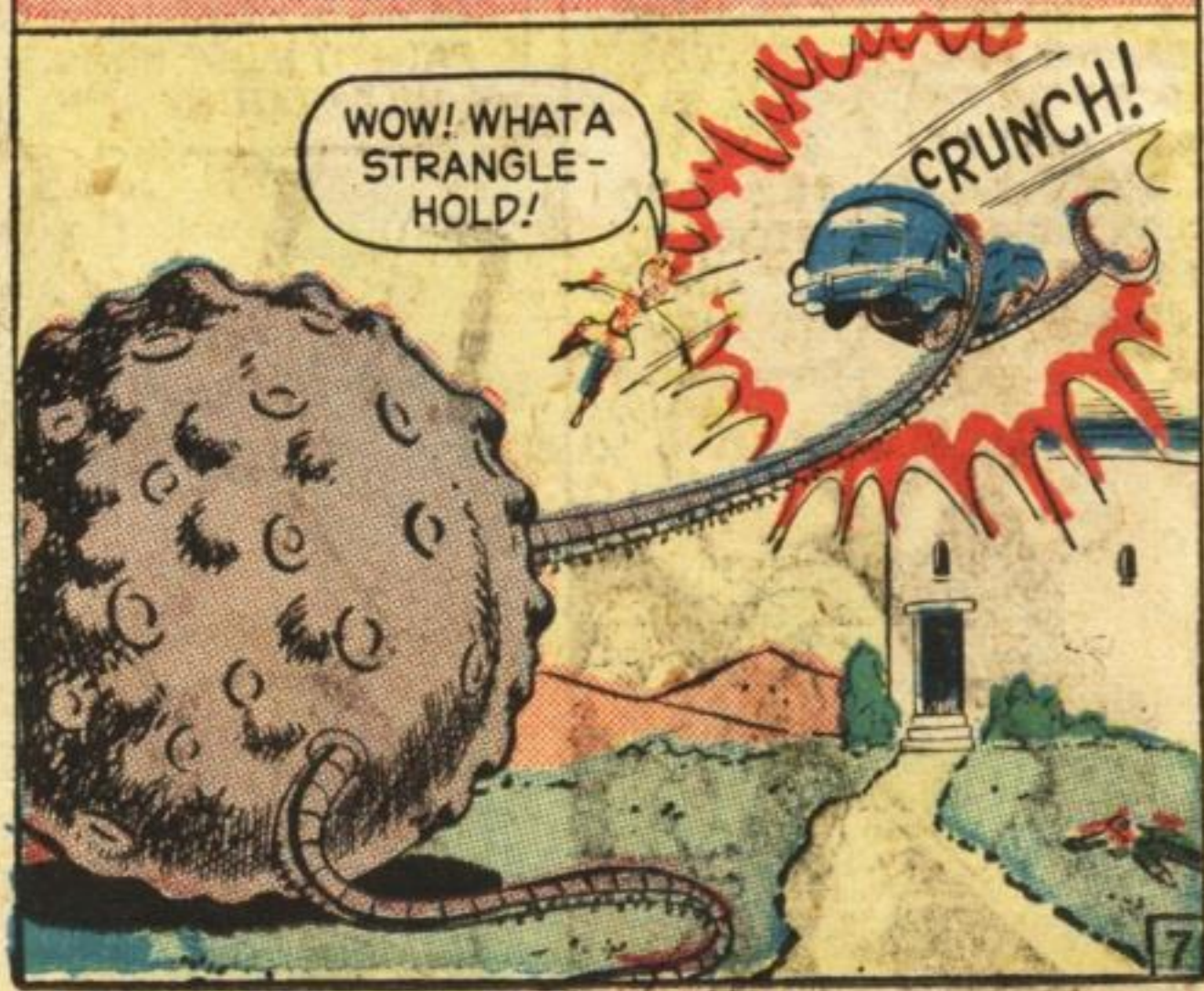




THE WHIRLIKE ARM LASHES IN PAIN, INSTANTLY ENCIRCLING THE CAR...



IN THE ALIEN GRIP, THE CAR CRUMPLES LIKE CARDBOARD, AS SUN GIRL BARELY ESCAPES...



JUST THEN, THE GIGANTIC SPHERE SHUDDERS AS INEZ DRAWS THE MAIN SWITCH OPEN! THE CRUMPLED CAR IS RELEASED, AS ALL THE ENERGY SEEMS TO LEAVE THE SPACE VISITOR...



RED UNIT

ANNIE OAKLEY
BLACKSTONE THE MAGICIAN
BLONDE PHANTOM
COMPLETE MYSTERY STORIES
CRIMEFIGHTERS ALWAYS WIN
GEORGIE
IDEAL COMICS
JOKER COMICS
JUSTICE
LAWBREAKERS ALWAYS LOSE
MARGIE
MARVEL MYSTERY COMICS
MILLIE THE MODEL
NAMORA
NELLIE THE NURSE
PATSY WALKER
SUB-MARINER
SUN GIRL
TEEN COMICS
TESSIE THE TYPIST
TEX MORGAN
TWO-GUN KID
WILD WESTERN
WILLIE

BLUE-YELLOW UNIT

ALL-TRUE CRIME CASES
ALL WINNERS
BLAZE CARSON
CAPTAIN AMERICA
CINDY
COMEDY COMICS
CRIME EXPOSED
FRANKIE
GAY COMICS
HEDY DE VINE
HUMAN TORCH
JEANIE
JUNIOR MISS
KID COLT
KRAZY KOMICS
LANA
MITZI
MY ROMANCE
OSCAR
POWERHOUSE PEPPER
RUSTY
SUPER RABBIT
TEX TAYLOR
THE WITNESS
VENUS
WACKY DUCK

MARVEL

COMIC GROUP

HI FRIENDS:

Lately there has been quite a debate about comics raging in the pages of the Saturday Review of Literature, one of America's most respected magazines. In an article, a Dr. Wertham discussed the problem of juvenile delinquency in America today, and pinned the blame for some of these cases on comic magazines, simply because many of the delinquent youngsters had read comics.

93% of all young people (from 8 to 16 years of age) read comics. Naturally a few young people get into some kind of trouble . . . so do a lot of older ones . . . and of course many of the kids who get into trouble do read comics. But what the article does not state is the fact that 93% of the boys and girls who get into *no trouble at all* also read comics.

Let us quote a letter from David Pace Wigransky, a 14 year old reader of comics, published in the July 24th issue of the Saturday Review:

" . . . In none of these cases was it proved that reading comic books was the cause of the delinquency. A good many of the delinquents mentioned happened to be readers of comic magazines, just as are 69,999,975 perfectly healthy, happy, normal American boys and girls, men and women, who also read comics.

" . . . It appears that his [Dr. Wertham's] \$64 question to a child being psychoanalyzed is, 'Do you read COMIC BOOKS, my little man?' Of course the juvenile delinquent, *being a normal child in at least that way*, will answer 'Yes'."

In other words, the case is just as we stated it above. Since almost all kids of any kind read comics, naturally some of the delinquents read comics too. But since the same percentage holds true among the millions of youngsters who have committed *no offense at all*, why not give the comics credit for the good influence they have been on these millions of healthy, normal kids, instead of just blaming them for our handful of delinquents?

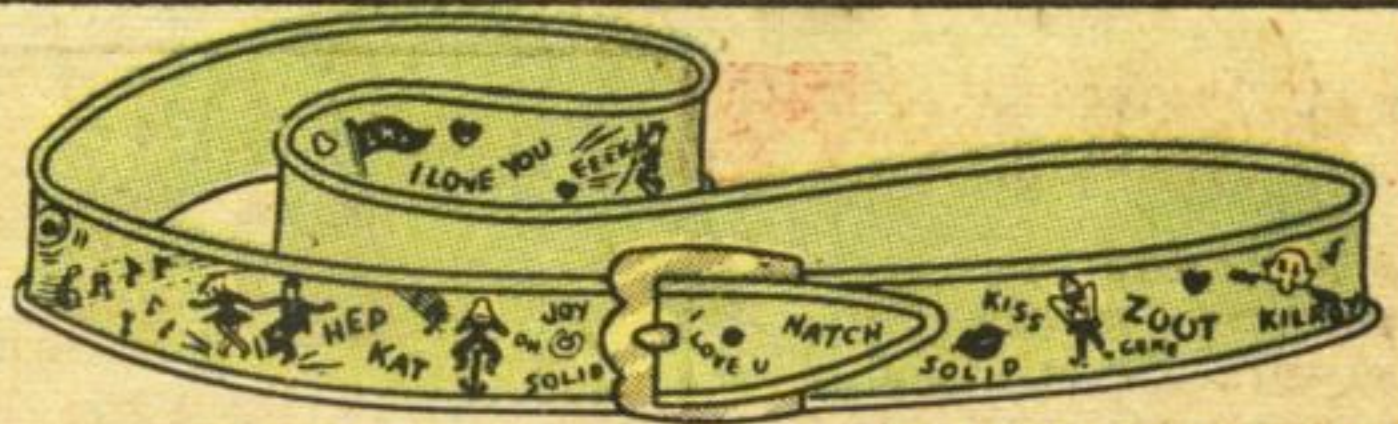
Once again let us remind you to show our magazines or any of the other good comics, to people who criticize this form of entertainment. Show those people that your favorite magazines are not harmful. Let them see Dr. Thompson's endorsement on the first page of every one of our magazines, and prove to one and all that the comics you buy and read are *good for you*.

THE EDITORS
MARVEL COMIC GROUP

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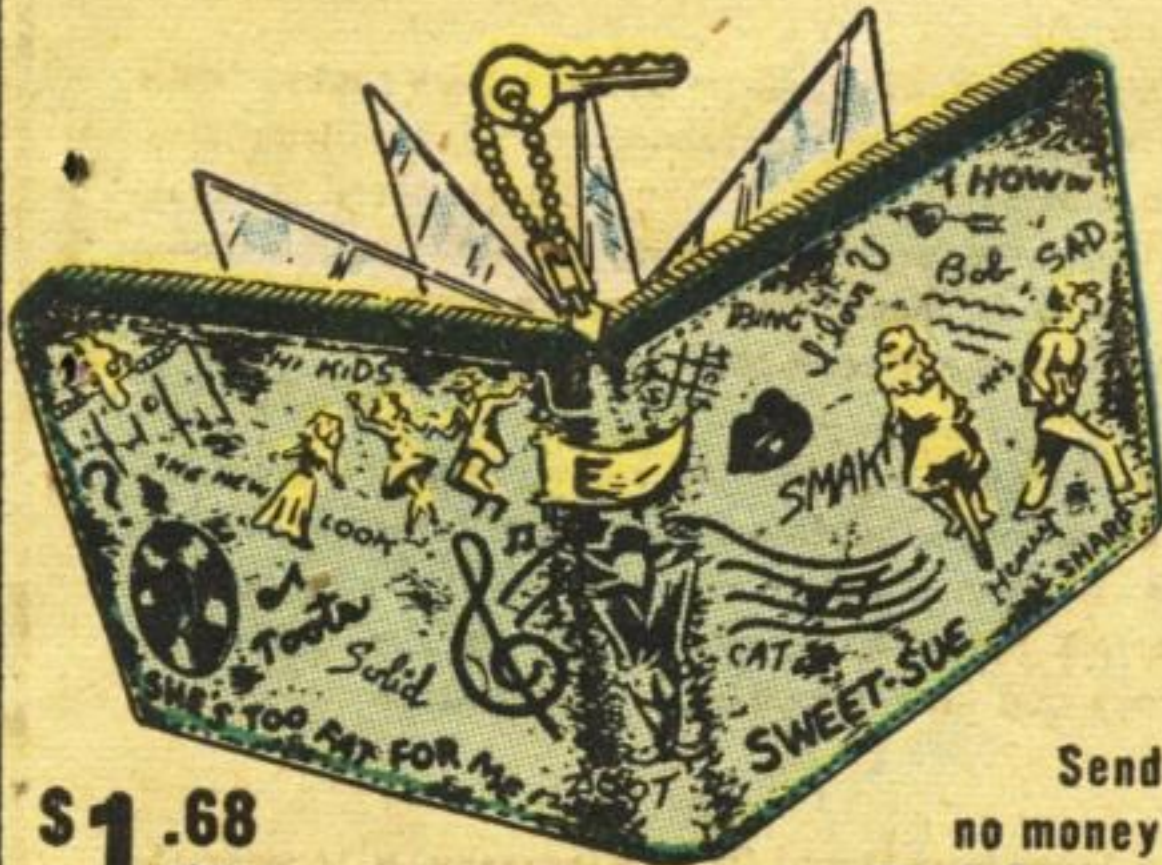
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CAPTAIN AMERICA

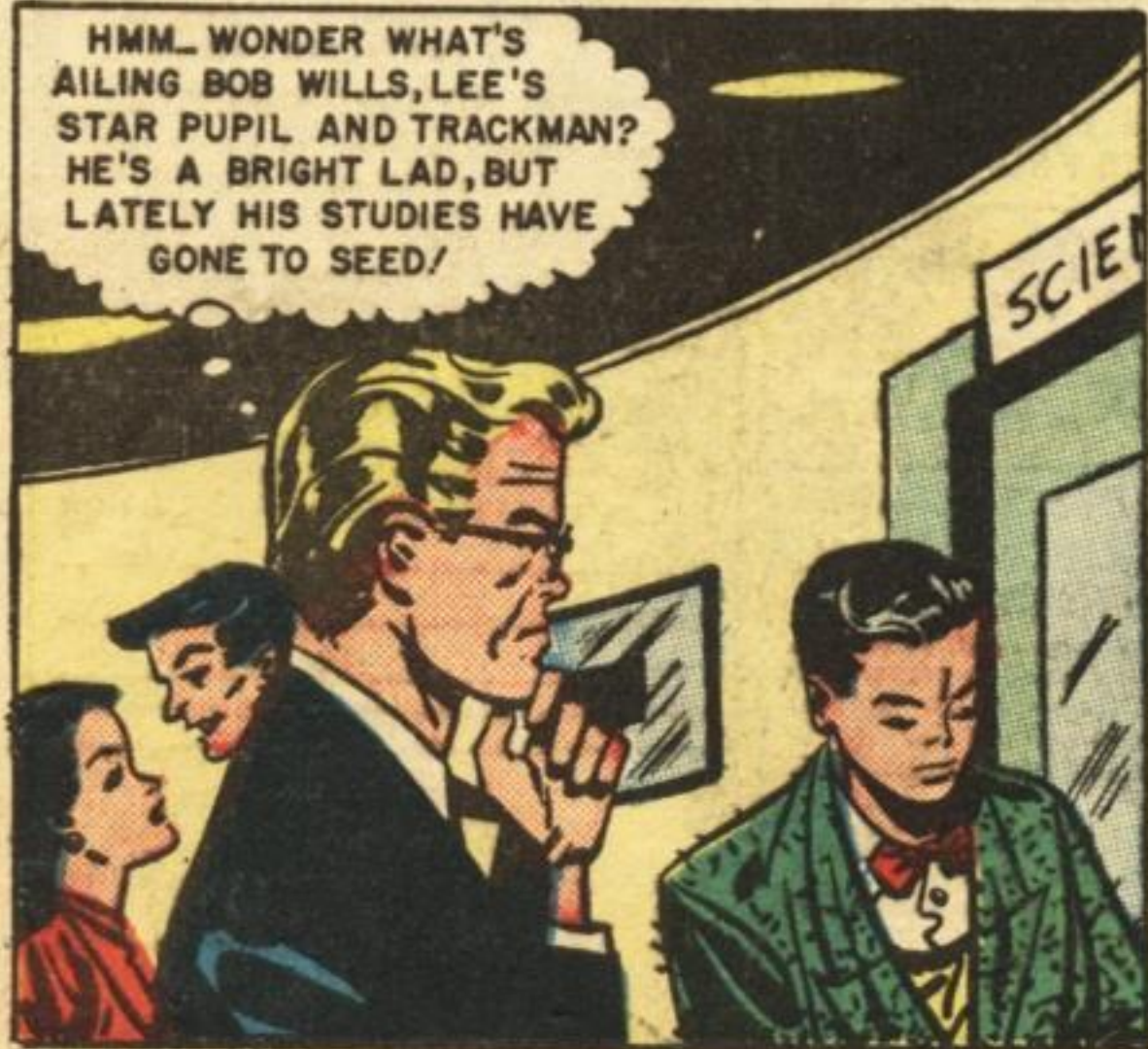
ONE OF THESE MEN IS A KILLER! ONE OF THESE MEN IS WEARING A MASK OF DEATH... A MASK THAT MEANS TERROR TO ALL WHO LOOK UPON IT! THE INVENTION OF POP HERMANN, MEANT TO BE A SOURCE OF FUN AND AMUSEMENT, BECOMES AN INSTRUMENT OF CRIME! PLUNGE INTO HEADSTRONG ACTION WITH CAPTAIN AMERICA, AS HE SEEKS TO SOLVE THE RIDDLE OF THE...
"DEATH MASK DANCE!"



3437

ONE DAY AT GLASS BREAK, AS STEVE ROGERS, BETTER KNOWN AS CAPTAIN AMERICA, LEAVES HIS CLASSROOM...

HMM... WONDER WHAT'S AILING BOB WILLS, LEE'S STAR PUPIL AND TRACKMAN? HE'S A BRIGHT LAD, BUT LATELY HIS STUDIES HAVE GONE TO SEED!



YOU LOOK BEAT, BOB! WHAT'S THE TROUBLE?

WOMEN, MISTER ROGERS! A WOMAN!



BUT WHY WEIGH
YOU DOWN WITH
MY TROUBLES?
BE SEEING
YOU!

A WOMAN?
HMMM... HE
MUST MEAN
JESSICA
HERMANN!
COME TO THINK
OF IT, HER
ATTENDANCE AND
SCHOLASTIC
RECORDS ARE
AS FRAIL AS
BOB'S!

AND *THIS* IS THE WOMAN, JESSICA HERMANN, AS SHE SPEAKS TO HER
FATHER IN HIS MASK AND COSTUME SHOP...

NOW, NOW, FATHER DEAR, YOU'VE
SCOLDED ENOUGH FOR
ONE DAY!

JESSICA! TAKE OFF DOT
CRAZY MASK! UND ABOUT
DOT SCHEMER, LEFTY...



HI, POP! HOW'S POP?
GOOD TO SEE YOU, POP!

LEFTY!

SHTOP
CALLING
ME POP!

C'MON, BEAUTIFUL! GET
OUT FROM BEHIND
THAT CORNY FACE!

EASY, LEFTY, OR
YOU'LL TAKE MY
MAKE-UP OFF!



SO LONG, POP! DON'T
WAIT UP FOR JESSICA,
POP! HA/HA!

I'LL BE
HOME
EARLY,
DAD!



DON'T CALL
ME "POP!"

A LITTLE LATER, MR. HERMANN HAS
A VISITOR...

EXKOOSE ME, SIR,
ISS IT A MASK YOU...
OH! IT'S MISTER
ROCHERS FROM DER
SCHOOL!

YES, MR.
HERMANN...
I'M ONE OF
JESSICA'S
TEACHERS!



ACH! DOT JESSICA OF
MINE! PERHAPS *YOU*
CAN TALK TO HER,
MR. ROCHERS! SHE
USED TO BE SUCH A
GOOT GIRL UNTIL
SHE MET DOT SCHEMER...
LEFTY!





AND OUTSIDE...

THERE GOES JESSICA WITH THAT SHARPER, LEFTY SPENCE!



LEFTY, JUST WHAT BUSINESS ARE YOU IN? DAD HAS OFTEN ASKED ME, BUT I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO TELL HIM!

INVESTMENTS, BABY DOLL! YEAH, I'M AN INVESTMENT BROKER! IN FACT, WE'RE GOIN' TO VISIT A CLIENT OF MINE NOW!



OH! HELLO, MR. SPENCE!

HI, CLINTON! PULL UP A CHAIR! THERE'S A MATTER I WANT TO DISCUSS WITH YOU!



YOUR LOAN OF TWENTY GRAND IS TWO MONTHS OVERDUE, CLINTON! I DON'T LIKE TO BRING IT UP NOW, BUT...

I-I HAVEN'T GOT THE MONEY!



YEAH? AND I HAVEN'T GOT ANY PATIENCE! THE MONEY, CLINTON! TEN O'CLOCK TOMORROW NIGHT, OR YOU'LL HAVE TO PAY INTEREST!

SURE, LEFTY, SURE!



GEE, LEFTY! WEREN'T YOU A LITTLE HARD ON HIM?

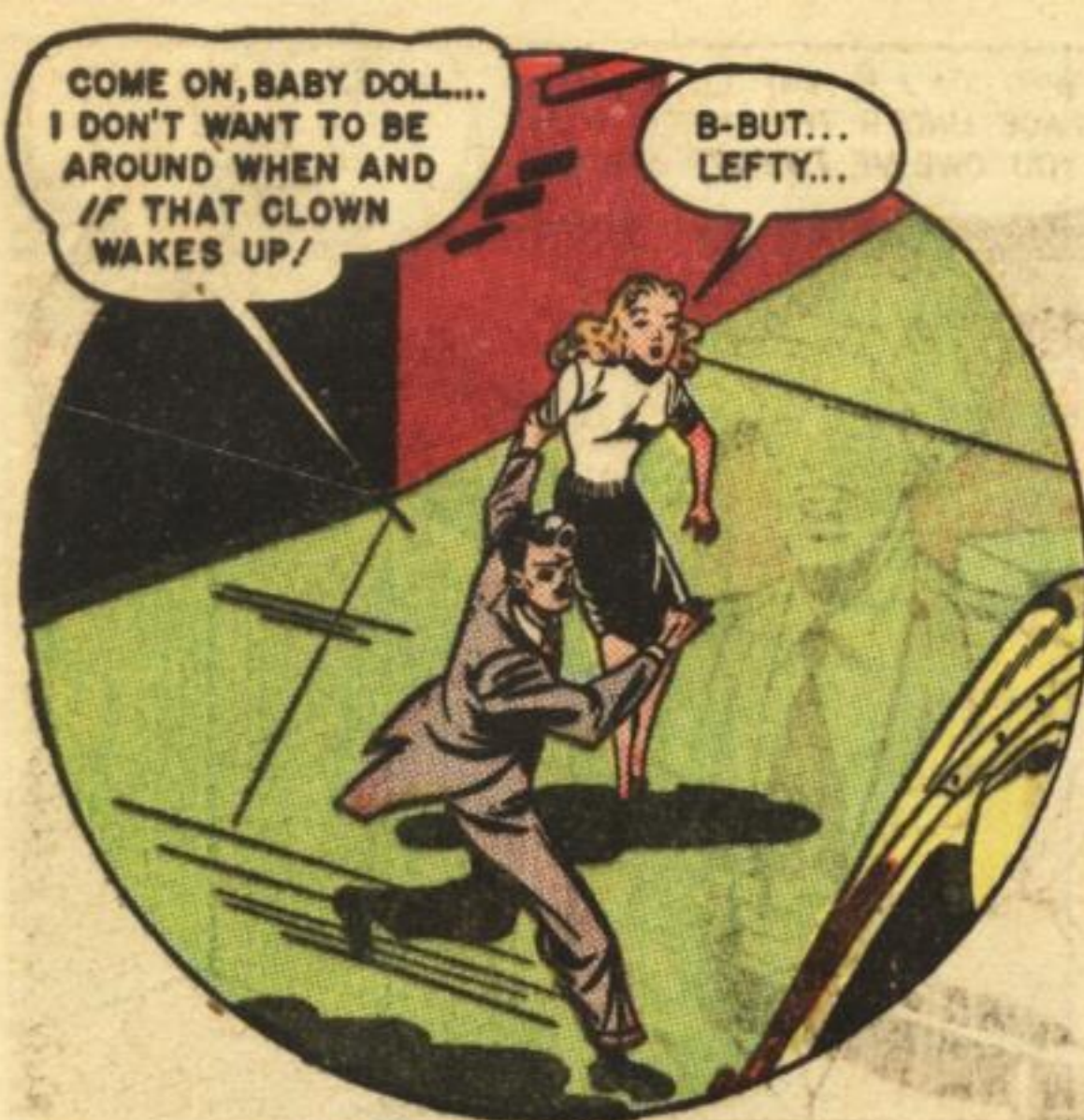
THIS IS *BIG* BUSINESS, CUTIE KID! AND IN BIG BUSINESS YOU CAN'T SOFT-SOAP THE CUSTOMER! BUT FORGET IT! THERE'S A NEW REVUE AT THE EL MORO TONIGHT! LET'S GO!



THE NEXT EVENING...

THAT POOR WILLS BOY HAS BEEN HANGING AROUND THE MASK SHOP FOR AN HOUR WAITING FOR JESSICA! OH-OH! SHE'S COMING OUT NOW WITH A PACKAGE!





COME ON, BABY DOLL...
I DON'T WANT TO BE
AROUND WHEN AND
IF THAT CLOWN
WAKES UP!

B-BUT...
LEFTY...



GOSH, CAPTAIN AMERICA/
I'M SORRY!

IT'S ALL RIGHT, SON!
YOU CAN'T DUCK
THEM ALL!

VOT
GIFFS?



JESSICA TOOK VUN MASK
FROM DER RACK! I DON'T
UNDERSTAND! MY POOR
JESSICA MIT DOT SCHEMER...
LEFTY!

TOO BAD HE GOT
AWAY FROM ME!
BUT MAYBE THAT
HEEL WILL DIG HIS
OWN GRAVE YET!



MEANWHILE, LEFTY STARTS TO DIG
THAT GRAVE...

LEFTY! I'M
BEGINNING TO
BE AFRAID
OF YOU!

AW, BABY DOLL,
YOU'RE JUST
NERVOUS! HERE,
LET ME GET
SOMETHING OUT
OF THE GLOVE
COMPARTMENT...



HERE! HANG ON TO THIS HEATER
FOR A SECOND! GIVE ME THAT
MASK YOU TOOK FROM POP'S
PLACE AND SEE IF YOU CAN HOLD
THE WHEEL STEADY WHILE I PUT
IT ON!

OH! A
G-GUN!



THERE! THANKS, SWEET-FACE!
STOP SHIVERING, KID... THIS IS
ALL PART OF MY BIG BUSINESS!
AND NOW, YOU'RE IN IT!

ALL
RIGHT,
LEFTY...

BLINDED BY HER IMAGINED LOVE FOR LEFTY,
JESSICA AGREES TO WORK WITH HIM!



I WON'T BE LONG... HA-HA! THIS JOKE'LL TAKE
EXACTLY THREE MINUTES TO PULL, SWEET-DISH!
JUST KEEP THAT MOTOR RUNNING!

OKAY, LEFTY!

OH... I HOPE I'M
NOT MAKING A
TERRIBLE
MISTAKE!



HI, CLINTON / HOW'S YOUR NERVES TONIGHT... AND YOUR BANK ROLL?

WHAT? WHO ARE...?



WHO AM I? HA! LOOK... THE FACE UNDER THIS MASK SAYS YOU OWE ME **TWENTY GRAND!**

LEFTY SPENCE! YIPES, LEFTY... I-I COULDN'T GET THE MONEY!



NO HARD FEELINGS, CLINTON / HA / HA / WE COVERED YOU WITH TWO INSURANCE POLICIES TO THE TUNE OF TWENTY GRAND... PAYABLE TO LEFTY SPENCE... **REMEMBER?**



MISTER CLINTON... I... **OH!**

WHAT'S THE MATTER, PAL? NEVER SEEN A KILLER'S FACE BEFORE? TAKE A **GOOD** LOOK!



AND REMEMBER ME TO THE POLICE DEPARTMENT! HA / HA!

AGHHH!



ALL RIGHT, LOVELY ONE / I COLLECTED MY DEBT... GET THE CAR ROLLING!

LEFTY! I HEARD SHOTS!



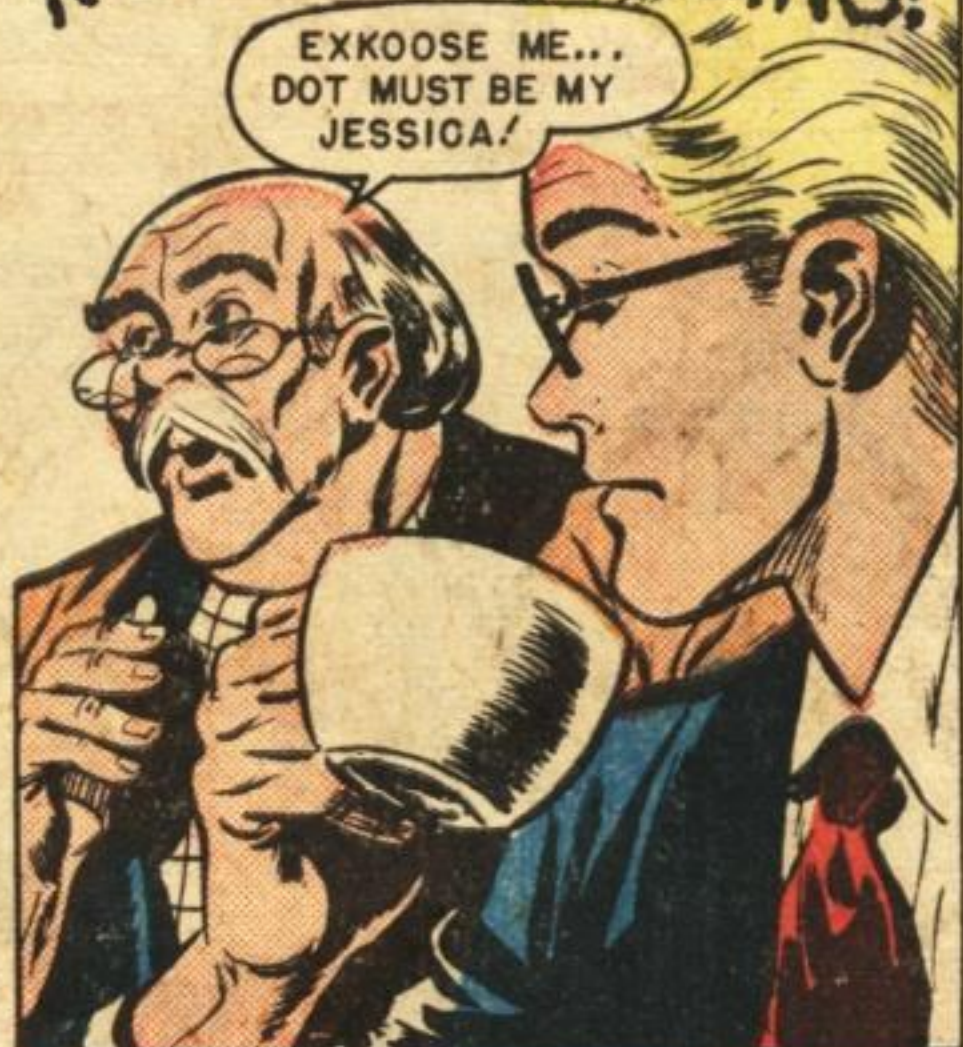
I-I HEARD GUNFIRE, LEFTY! I'M **TERRIBLY** AFRAID!

NOW, SWEET-FACE! TRY TO ACT LIKE THOSE MONKEYS... SEE NO EVIL... SPEAK NO EVIL... HEAR NO EVIL... HA / HA! THEN WE'LL GET ALONG **SWELL!**

LATER THAT NIGHT, STEVE ROGERS RETURNS TO HERMANN'S SHOP! AND AS THEY HAVE COFFEE, AWAITING JESSICA'S RETURN...



RING-A-LING-A-LING!



STEVE ROGERS WATCHES AS...



JESSICA, DOLLINK! VHERE HAFF YOU BEEN?



YES, DOLLINK! IT'S TIME I SHTOMP DER FOOT DOWN, UNDT...



POOR JESSICA... SOMETINK UPSET HER!

THIS MASK SHE BROUGHT BACK LOOKS UPSETTING TOO! I'LL KEEP IT FOR A WHILE!



LATER...

GOOD GRIEF! "MARK CLINTON, RESTAURATEUR, **MURDERED!** WAITER CLAIMS TO HAVE SEEN HORRIBLE FACE OF MURDERER BEFORE BEING ATTACKED!" HMMM... I'D LIKE TO TALK TO THAT WAITER!



THE NEXT DAY AT THE MASK SHOP...



GOOD WORK, POP! *WONDERFUL!* THIS SKULL MASK'LL GO *SWELL* AT MY *COSTUME PARTY*, POP!

SHTOP CALLINK ME *POP!*

DER MASK CHUST COME OUDT OF DER MOLD! IT VILL SHRINK A LITTLE YET, UNDT... SAY, LEFTY... VHY DID JESSICA COME HOME CRYINK LAST NIGHT?

DUNNO, POP... AHHH... HERE'S GORGEOUS!



C'MON, SWEETS! SO LONG, POPS!

DOLLINK... *EARLY, PLEASE!*

YES, DAD!



THE GRIM MASQUERADE HAS BEGUN-WITH DEATH CALLING THE TURN!

MEANWHILE, IN A DOWNTOWN ROOMING HOUSE...

UGH! I'M WEARY! JUST BECAUSE I SAW THE MURDERER'S FACE, THOSE COPS HAVE BEEN QUESTIONING ME A NIGHT AND A DAY...



...HEY! CAPTAIN AMER... *NO! THAT FACE! THE KILLER!*



SORRY TO GRAY YOUR HAIR FOR A MOMENT, MURPHY! BUT I HAD TO BE SURE! WILL YOU COME WITH ME?

WHEW! IT IS YOU! WHAT A RELIEF!

SURE, CAP'N! ANYTHING YOU SAY!



AT THAT MOMENT, IN A PENTHOUSE APARTMENT...

LEFTY... I-I WANT TO GO HOME!

HA! LISTEN TO DOLL-FACE TALK! ONLY ELEVEN-THIRTY, AND SHE WANTS TO GO HOME!



LOOK, KID... I KNOW WHAT'S EATING YOU! YOU KNOW ENOUGH TO **HANG** ME! BUT REMEMBER... I KNOW HOW TO MAKE SURE YOU DON'T **TALK**!

LEFTY! YOU'RE **THREATENING** ME!

YEAH! NO PIPSQUEAK DAME IS... UH! **H...HOT! THIS MASK!**

...TIGHT! (COUGH-COUGH!) HELP!..CHOKE..UHH...AGHH!



THE PARTY IS THROWN INTO WILD CONFUSION AS LEFTY SLUMPS TO THE FLOOR, GASPING! THEN HIS BREATHING STOPS!



THEN, CAPTAIN AMERICA ENTERS...



LATER, WHEN THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY APPEARS...

...AND JESSICA WAS LEFTY'S UNWILLING TOOL! THE MASK LEFTY WORE TONIGHT WAS **FRESHLY MOLDED**, AND SHRUNK TOO FAST AROUND HIS **NECK**!

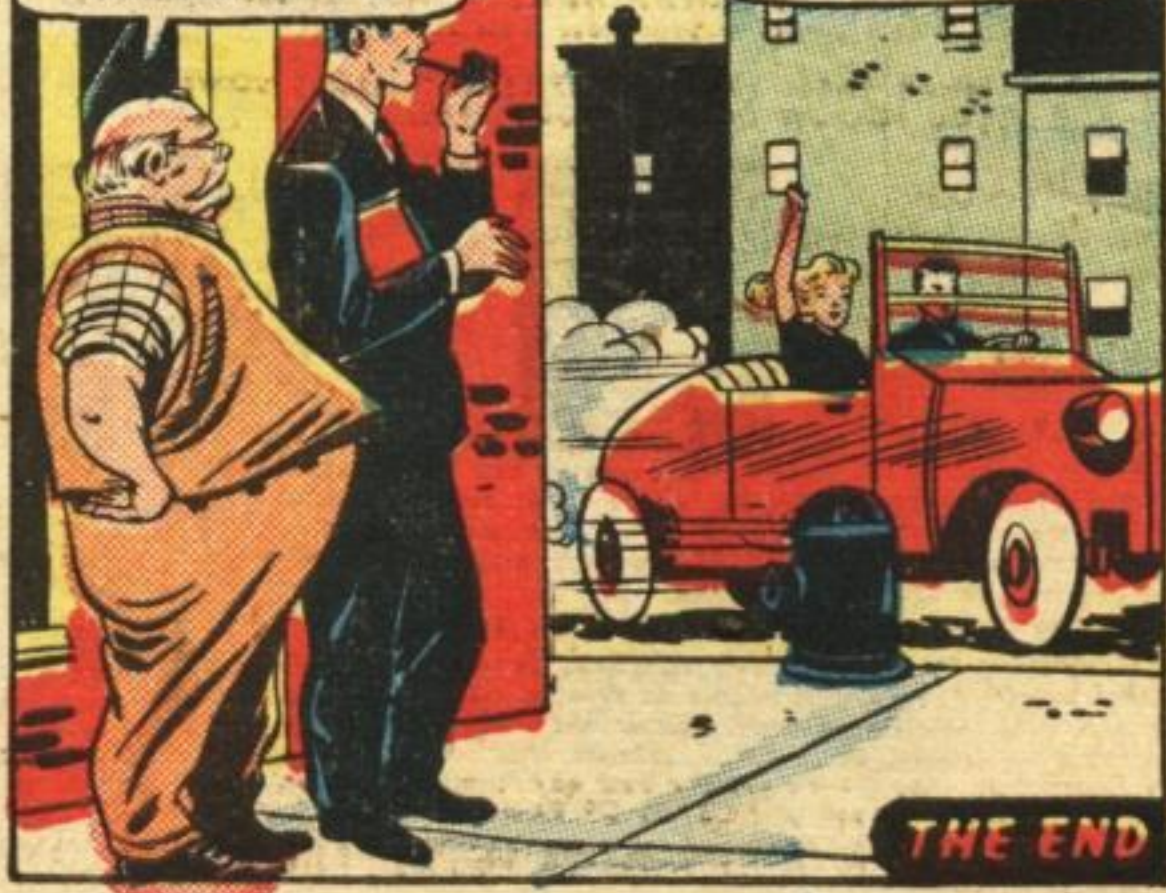
OH! HOW WRONG I WAS! HOW TERRIBLY WRONG!



SEVERAL WEEKS LATER...

SOCH A CHANGE IN MINE DOLLINK! NOW I GO...HOW YOU SAY...**VHACKY?** **VHACKY MITT DOT BOB** CALLING ME POP!

HA! HA! SURE, POP! BUT THOSE TWO KIDS WILL HAVE THE BEST **SCHOLASTIC** RECORD FOR THE **TERM** IF THEY KEEP IT UP!



THE END

Let's Go, Pal!
I'll prove I can make you

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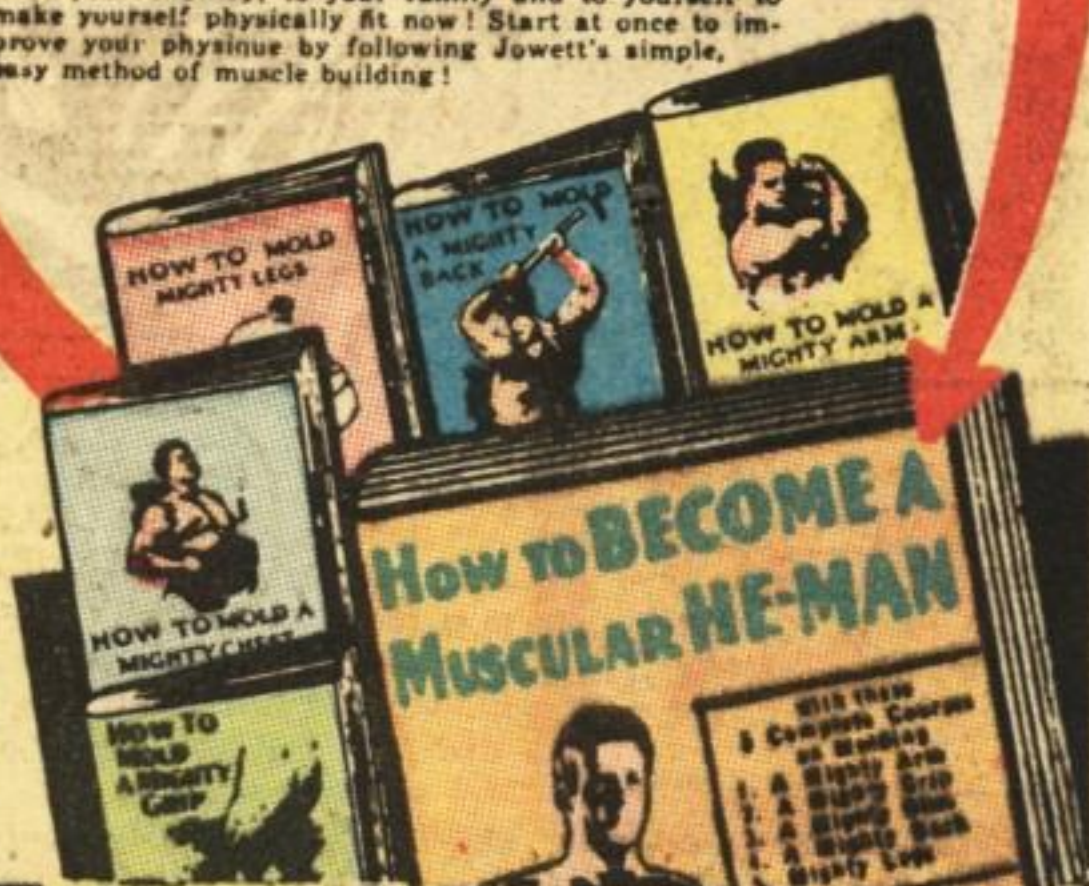
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FREE GIFT COUPON!

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"Champions"

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Easy to use! Hard to lose! Every Man Will Want This Beautiful 4 Color Painted ZIPPER BILLFOLD With Gilt SAFETY CHAIN!

The beautiful painted scene embossed on this Billfold . . .

CAN'T RUB OFF

This smart-looking Gilt Chain is made extra strong to protect your valuables.

Style 520 — Hula Girl

Only \$1.98

This is the first ZIPPER BILLFOLD and SAFETY CHAIN COMBINATION with all these unusual features ever to be offered at the sensational LOW PRICE of only \$1.98.

Billfold has a built-in Pass Case and built-in Plastic Coin Holder! Clover Safety Chain is designed so it can also be used as a handy Key Chain!

You've never in your lifetime seen a Billfold and Gilt Safety Chain combination to compare with this latest Illinois Merchandise creation. You've never before seen such luxurious appearance, and such real honest-to-goodness value at such a LOW PRICE! The beautiful painted designs are embossed with your choice of 4 life-like illustrations in breath-taking colors. These colorful scenes can't rub off—they're stamped right into the wallet itself. Billfold zips open "all-the-way-around" and has a riveted metal eyelet at one end where the Gilt Safety Chain is securely fastened. Inside is a built-in plastic coin holder, a roomy currency compartment, a built-in pass case, also a spacious window pocket for your membership cards. The Gilt Safety Chain is designed especially for this Billfold. It's long and flexible so you can carry Billfold in either the side or back pocket without interference. It's made extra sturdy to safeguard you against theft. A special self-locking device at the top fastens on to your belt or trousers. The spring lock at the bottom fits into eyelet of billfold but can also be disengaged and the chain then worn as a key holder. However, don't wait! Order your Painted Zipper Billfold and Gilt Safety Chain Combination today while this low price offer is in effect. SEND NO MONEY! Just mail the handy order coupon below on our 10 day money back guarantee offer. We feel sure that you'll be so delighted with your Billfold and Chain Combination once you see it and examine its many unusual features, that you'll want to order again for gifts to friends and relatives.



Style 532—U. S. Map

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MY BILLFOLD SELECTION IS _____
(Give style number and subject)

If more than one billfold is being ordered state how many here _____

MY NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____



Style 535—Texas Ranger



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CITY..... STATE.....

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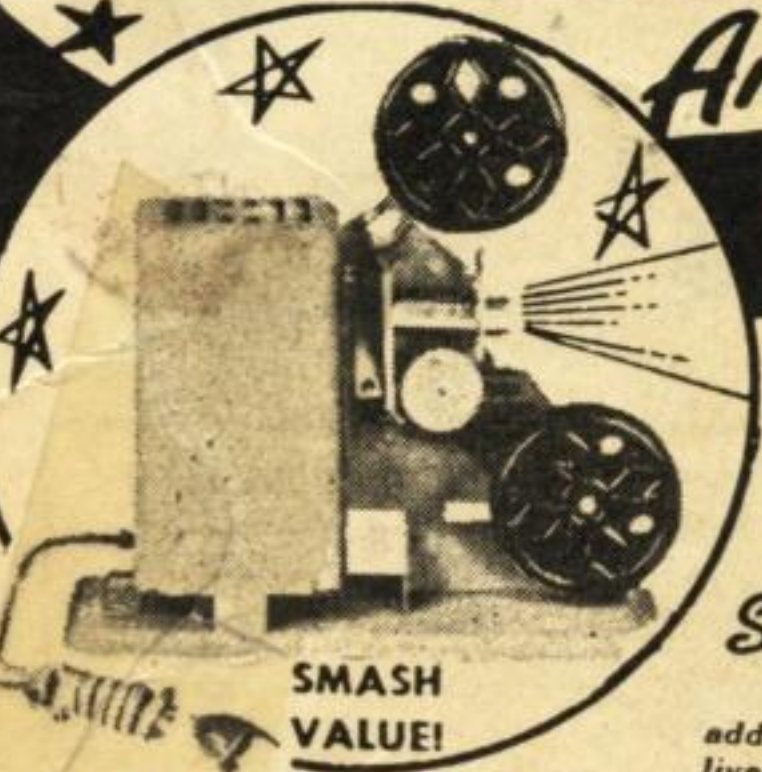
MAIL MART INC., Dept. PN-120
230 Grand Street, New York 13, N. Y.

- ☐ Send Projector, I enclose \$1. On delivery I will pay postman \$5.98 plus postage.
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Just send your name and address on penny postcard. Your beautiful Key of C professional metal Harmonica and Hoppy's Complete Book of Instructions and 200 Songs will be mailed at once. On arrival, pay postman just \$1.69 plus C.O.D. and postage. Keep for 7 days on free trial offer. If you are not satisfied, return and your money will be refunded at once. Supplies are limited. Don't risk disappointment. Order now—TODAY!

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IT'S EASY TO PLAY, AND YOU GET THIS FINE, FULL SIZE HARMONICA, HOPPY'S NEW METHOD OF INSTRUCTION, AND WORDS AND MUSIC OF 200 SONGS, — ALL FOR ONLY \$1.69



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